

american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | March 4, 2009

Contents

[U.S. & World News](#)
[ALA News](#)
[Booklist Online](#)
[Division News](#)
[Round Table News](#)
[Awards](#)
[Seen Online](#)
[Tech Talk](#)
[Publishing](#)
[Actions & Answers](#)
[Calendar](#)



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U.S. & World News

[Nebraska auditor cries foul on gaming](#)

A 10-minute YouTube [video](#) posted by the Nebraska Library Commission on January 18, 2008, to announce the Commission's purchase of Rock Band and Dance Dance Revolution has resulted—roughly a year later—in an audit ([PDF file](#)) issued February 24. In it, Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts Mike Foley concluded that “the purchase of gaming equipment is a questionable use of public funds,” and that “using social websites and gaming equipment on State time and with State computers . . . appears to be an inappropriate use of public funds.”...

American Libraries Online, Feb. 27

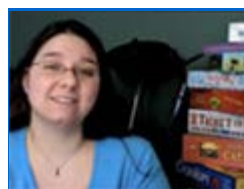


ALA News

[ALA releases gaming toolkit](#)

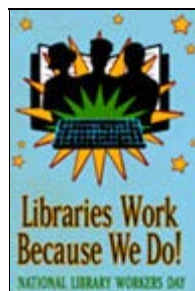
In recognition of the increasing value of gaming to literacy improvement, ALA—with assistance from a \$1 million grant from the Verizon Foundation—has developed the [Librarian's Guide to Gaming: An Online Toolkit for Building Gaming @ your library](#).

The toolkit includes a wide range of resources, contributed by expert gaming librarians across the country, to help librarians create, fund, and evaluate gaming experiences in the library. Beth Gallaway (above) offers an [introduction](#)....



[Celebrate National Library Workers Day](#)

The ALA–Allied Professional Association encourages all library staff and patrons nationwide to participate in National Library Workers Day on April 14 during National Library Week. This day is a time to honor the contributions of all library workers, including librarians, support staff, and others who make library services possible. To participate, libraries can purchase NLWD products and make use of the celebration ideas and promotional materials on the NLWD [website](#), such as inviting the



[ALA Annual Conference](#), Chicago, July 9–15. The [Early Bird registration](#) deadline is **March 6**.



Booklist Online's newest blog is [Bookends](#). Cindy Dobrez and Lynn Rutan, middle-school librarians and longtime *Booklist* reviewers, prove that two heads are better than one when it comes to discussing YA and children's books.
NEW! From Booklist Online.

In this issue
March 2009

public, funders, and officials in to see what really happens in the library. Library patrons and staff can also [nominate](#) their favorite library worker for a Star or a Student Star....

[Coalition building in your community](#)

Would you like an extra set of hands to help get the word out about your library? When managed correctly, coalitions can bring needed expertise, credibility, and resources to bear on your efforts to advocate for your library. ALA Washington Office staff and other library experts will share criteria for getting involved in coalitions, secrets for selecting partners, and ideas for coordinating effective action in a webinar on March 18, 4–5 p.m. Eastern time, featuring Stephanie Vance....

District Dispatch, Mar. 3

[E-government in your library](#)

The ALA Office of Government Relations is interested in learning more about what types of e-government and employment services are being provided in libraries. Your answers on this [survey](#) will help them in their work with legislators in Washington, D.C., as they advocate for library funding and other library interests. Please answer the survey questions by March 20....

District Dispatch, Mar. 3

[Twitter on ALA, and some advice](#)

Jenny Levine writes: "Going into the ALA Midwinter Meeting last month, I knew Twitter was going to play a much more prominent role than it had in the past. And wow, did Twitter play a [big part](#). If you had asked me, I wouldn't have predicted that four councilors would tweet from the floor during council sessions, thereby providing an effective, real-time transcript of what was happening. Even beyond that, I got to participate in meetings I wasn't physically at (from within other meetings), as did people who weren't even in Denver. And [good things](#) came from all of it."...

The Shifted Librarian, Feb. 27; misc.joy, Jan. 27; Library Garden, Feb. 3

[Charles Fletcher Lummis and The Biblosmiles](#)

Although he was only a librarian for five years (as director of the Los Angeles Public Library, 1905–1910), Charles Fletcher Lummis was one of the most colorful librarians in California history. Lummis created The Biblosmiles, a tongue-in-cheek organization that was a "Rally of Librarians Who Are Nevertheless Human" at the 1906 ALA Annual Conference in Narragansett, Rhode Island, and convened during four later conferences. Their password was "Cheer up, ALA," and at their annual dinner they joyously sang "My Dewey, 'Tis of Thee, Sweet Ex-of Albany," and other songs by Lummis....

Library History Buff Blog, Mar. 1



Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Media](#)

Hammett, Dashiell. *The Maltese Falcon*.



Libraries and civic engagement

The return of Salinas Public Library

Amalgamating for advocacy

Midwinter Meeting conversations



[The 2009 National Library Legislative Day](#) will be held May 11 and 12 at the Liaison Hotel in Washington, D.C. A new administration and political climate in the House and Senate mean a critical and exciting time for librarians to get their message out to Congress. ALA has reserved a block of rooms, but the reservations always go quickly; be sure to [register](#) with your [state coordinator](#) by April 15.

Career Leads

Dramatized by Michael Madsen and others.
Dec. 2008. 3 hr. Blackstone, CD (978-1-4332-5248-8).

Wow! Whether or not you've read Hammett's classic noir detective novel or seen the 1941 movie, you will be entranced by this magnificent adaptation, which is a solid reminder of the power of audio. Hammett's novel, set in San Francisco in the 1920s, introduces cynical detective Sam Spade, who becomes involved in the search for the legendary falcon created for Emperor Charles V. Caught up in a deadly conspiracy involving the beautiful but treacherous Brigid O'Shaughnessy, the formidable Kasper Gutman, and the slippery Joel Cairo, Spade must see beyond their lies and betrayals to uncover the truth, if not the prize. In this mystery rich in characters, the actors show an impeccable understanding of their roles. Madsen's gravelly voice gives Spade a hard edge, a tough-guy image to match the slang of the mean streets. As the affably sinister Gutman, Edward Herrmann excels, playing the part to the hilt. And Sandra Oh, as the heartless O'Shaughnessy, alternates between scheming enchantress and helpless beauty....



[Another look at: Watchmen](#)

Gordon Flagg writes: "The imminent big-screen adaptation of *Watchmen* has brought renewed attention to that groundbreaking graphic novel, which has reappeared on best-seller lists in anticipation of the movie. *Watchmen*, one of *Time*'s 100 best English-language novels of the 20th century, posits the existence of costumed crime-fighters, only one of whom possesses actual superpowers, in a world recognizably our own. The one genuinely super-powered figure, omnipotent Doctor Manhattan, has altered nearly every aspect of society, from far-reaching technological advances made possible by his ability to manipulate atoms, to world politics—having a godlike being on its side gives the U.S. dominance in the Cold War and enables Richard Nixon's fifth term, though ultimately it leads to the brink of nuclear war."...



[Who discusses Watchmen?](#)

Kaite Stover writes: "A teacher friend of mine told me he is having his senior English class read *Watchmen* by Alan Moore and Dave Gibbons for a class assignment. Mark has always been a fan of *Watchmen* and he showed me his dog-eared bedraggled copy of days ago and said he was on his tenth reading. Any book that makes someone read it 10 times has got to be good, so I picked up *Watchmen* and started reading. I was immediately absorbed by these flawed and tragic superheroes and found them all so much more easily identifiable than Superman, Batman, and Wonder Woman. I started thinking about how this graphic novel could be discussed in a group setting and what topics I'd want to cover."...

Book Group Buzz, Mar. 3



from
JobLIST

[Copyright and Scholarly Communication](#)

[Librarian](#). University of Texas–Pan American, Edinburg. Primary responsibilities include serving as the university library's advisor for copyright and intellectual property issues, working as a liaison with faculty members and the Copyright Clearance Center, assisting with the formation of the UTPA scholarly communication database, creating and maintaining the UTPA library website for copyright issues, assisting faculty in obtaining copyrights for materials stored in online classes or in the library, and providing updated copyright information as needed....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



@ Visit [Booklist Online](#) for other reviews and much more....

Division News

[ACRL to discuss social networking](#)

More than 3,000 librarians and staff from college and university libraries nationwide will meet in Seattle March 12–15 for ACRL's 14th National Conference to discuss a host of pressing issues affecting higher education. Among those issues is how college students in the age of Google, Facebook, and Twitter are using their libraries differently than students did a decade ago. The conference will also focus on interactive gaming and social networking technology in libraries, the future of reference and online searching, open access to research, distance learning, and e-cruitment....



[Gaming, music, movies, and more at Teen Tech Week](#)

At a time when disposable income is shrinking dramatically, teens from coast to coast are thinking twice before shopping in malls, buying movie tickets, or spending money on video games—why buy when you can borrow? During [Teen Tech Week](#), March 8–14, teens will take advantage of the many free technology resources available at their school and public libraries. This event, sponsored by YALSA, is an opportunity for libraries to showcase the many free technology resources for teens. This year's theme is Press Play @ your library, which encourages teens to literally “press play” on digital devices at the library....



[AASL preconference workshops](#)

AASL's 14th National Conference and Exhibition promises to “Rev Up Learning @ your library” with preconference workshops geared toward school library media specialists and their programs. Preconference sessions, held November 4–5, will include “Standards for the 21st-Century Learner in Action,” “AASL School Library Advocacy Institute,” “Beyond Simple Web Searching—Guerrilla Tactics to Get the Information You Want and Know What You're Getting,” and “Eating Elephant 2.0 One Bite at a Time: Using the Read-Write Web in Classrooms and Libraries.” The Early Bird registration deadline is July 14....

[Scholarly Communication 101 road show](#)

ACRL is taking scholarly communication on the road in 2009 with a workshop, [Scholarly Communication 101: Starting with the Basics](#). This interactive overview of scholarly communication highlights individual or institutional strategic planning and action. Four modules focus on new methods of scholarly publishing and communication, copyright and intellectual property, economics, and open access. Institutions interested in hosting should apply by April 13....

[2007 Academic Library Trends and Statistics](#)

The [European Library](#) offers free access to the resources of the 48 national libraries of Europe in 20 languages. Currently, the European Library gives access to 150 million items across Europe. The amount of referenced digital collections is constantly increasing. The library provides a vast virtual collection of material from all disciplines and offers visitors simple access to European cultural resources. The European Library is a noncommercial organization available to anyone around the world seeking books, maps, photographs, music, videos, and other materials. Participating institutions are all members of the Conference of European National Librarians (CENL), a foundation aiming at increasing and reinforcing the role of national libraries in Europe.

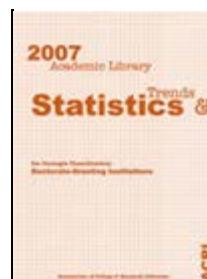
Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it](#). Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the [Love Libraries](#) site.

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

“Maybe I’m a boring guy, but I love libraries. . . . I can spend 12 hours in the library if I’m looking for

ACRL has released its *2007 Academic Library Trends and Statistics*, the latest in a series of annual publications that describe the collections, staffing, expenditures, and service activities of academic libraries. The publication includes survey data from 1,311 academic libraries and covers five major categories of expenditures. The print edition is [available](#) for purchase and will be sold at the 2009 ACRL National Conference in Seattle. An online edition is also [available](#)....



[ASCLA LSSPS annual dinner](#)

The Libraries Serving Special Populations Section of ASCLA invites all current and potential members to its annual dinner, held during the ALA Annual Conference, on July 12, 6:30–8:30 p.m., at Emilio's Tapas Sol y Nieve, 215 East Ohio St., Chicago. The dinner is an opportunity to visit old colleagues and meet new ones employed in library services for special populations. Register [online](#) or call (800) 974-3084....

[ASCLA programs in Chicago](#)

ASCLA invites all attendees of ALA Annual Conference in Chicago to its [programs](#), which address such topics as services to special populations, collaboration, and resource sharing. By sharing the expertise of its members with conference attendees, ASCLA provides opportunities for all library staff to improve service delivery at their libraries and learn about tools that will help them solve challenges they are facing....

[LLAMA sponsors fundraiser at Second City Theatre](#)

Tickets are available for "A Night of Laughs at Chicago's Second City," presented by LLAMA at 7 p.m. on July 10, during the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Come for a night of improvisational comedy at the theatre that launched the careers of such comic greats as Tina Fey, John Belushi, Mike Myers, Bill Murray, Gilda Radner, and countless others. A portion of the ticket price will help support future LLAMA programming. Purchase tickets on the ALA Annual Conference [website](#)....



[PLA to offer Serving Diverse Populations workshop](#)

To help public librarians learn how to effectively serve diverse populations, PLA is offering an intensive two-day workshop designed to teach these practical skills in Spokane, Washington, April 14–15, as a preconference during the Washington Library Association annual conference. The workshop will be held at the Spokane Public Library....

[YALSA activities in Chicago](#)

YALSA events at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago begin on July 9 with two preconferences: "Genre Galaxy: Explore the Universe of Teen Reading," a full-day preconference including lunch; and "Moving Up the YA Career Ladder," a half-day preconference. Other activities include a happy hour and fashion show, YALSA 101, and awards events....

something in particular. It's kind of like hunting a fugitive through the pages of history. I really enjoy it. Luckily in the case of the [1900 Galveston hurricane], there was a lot of stuff to mine. In Galveston, there is the [Rosenberg Library](#) which has a terrific storm archive: full of personal accounts, full of little bits and details, full of photographs—all of which kind of helped me piece together the saga of the storm."

—Erik Larson, author of *Isaac's Storm: A Man, a Time, and the Deadliest Hurricane in History* (Crown, 1999), an account of the 1900 Galveston hurricane, in an interview on the Books on Tape audiobook version.



AL on Twitter? Follow *American Libraries* news stories, videos, and blog posts on [Twitter](#).

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. What exactly is the green library

[YALSA names new blog manager](#)

YALSA has named Heidi Dolamore, community library manager at the Contra Costa County Community Resource Center in San Pablo, California, the manager of the [YALSA Blog](#), effective in July. Dolamore will work with YALSA to oversee the content and look of the blog and recruit and oversee bloggers for the site....

Round Table News

[Join a round table](#)

Joining one of ALA's 17 round tables is a great way to become involved in ALA. Most have publications and present programs during ALA Annual Conferences, so round tables are effective vehicles through which to express yourself. They also are a means for you to affect ALA policy, not only by helping to write policy, but also by having a voice on ALA Council. Moreover, each group elects its own officers, allowing you to become involved as an elected leader....

Awards

[Equality Award](#)

Karen Downing has received the 2009 ALA Equality Award, which honors an outstanding individual or group promoting equality in the library profession. Downing, foundation/grants and executive research service librarian with the University of Michigan Library, was selected for her accomplishments in promoting diversity and equality in the library profession. These efforts include her pursuit of a doctoral degree regarding "The Relationship between Social Identity and Role Performance." The award will be presented at the Award Ceremony and Reception July 14 during the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago....



[Paul Howard Award for Courage](#)

Judith Flint, Amy Grasmick, and Christine Lesinski of the Kimball Public Library, in Randolph, Vermont, are the recipients of the ALA Paul Howard Award for Courage. The \$1,000 biannual award and citation honors an individual or group exhibiting unusual courage for the benefit of library programs or services. Flint is youth librarian, Grasmick is the director, and Lesinski is chair of the board of trustees. The three were recognized for their firm response to a request by a Vermont state police detective investigating the reported [disappearance](#) of 12-year-old Brooke Bennett in 2008....

[Ulrich's Serials Librarianship Award](#)

Brian Green is the 2009 recipient of the ALCTS Ulrich's Serials Librarianship Award. This award for distinguished contributions to serials consists of a citation and \$1,500 donated by ProQuest. Green is founder and manager of the international group [EDItEUR](#) and has contributed and led the development of various standards that facilitate the expedient and accurate handling of serials processes and transactions. He serves as executive director of the International ISBN Agency....



[Blackwell's Scholarship Award](#)

movement? I hear the term "green" being used a lot, but how does it apply to libraries?

A. The green library movement is a growing group of libraries, librarians, institutions, and municipalities that are committed to reducing their [environmental impact](#). Most of the focus of going green has been on building construction and renovation, but it is also important to consider the materials that are used inside these buildings, such as photocopiers, computers, and printed materials. ALA has two groups that address how libraries can become more environmentally friendly: the International Round Table's [International Sustainable Library Development Interest Group](#) which serves as a clearinghouse of sustainable community-based library projects in developing areas of the world; and the Social Responsibilities Round Table's [Task Force on the Environment](#), which was created in 1989 to promote awareness for environmental issues. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

@ The [ALA Librarian](#) welcomes your questions.

The 2009 ALCTS Blackwell's Scholarship Award goes to Karen Schmidt, Wendy Allen Shelburne, and David Steven Vess for their article "Approaches to Selection, Access, and Collection Development in the Web World: A Case Study with Fugitive Literature," published in *Library Resources & Technical Services* 52, no. 3 (July 2008): 184–191. This award honors the author of the year's outstanding monograph or article in the field of resources development in libraries....

Coutts Award

Judy Luther, president of Informed Strategies, and Selden Lamoureux, electronic resources librarian at North Carolina State University libraries, have won the 2009 Coutts Award for Innovation in Electronic Resources Management, presented by the Collection Management and Development Section of ALCTS. The award recognizes significant and innovative contributions to electronic collections management and development practice. Luther and Lamoureux were instrumental in developing [SERU: A Shared Electronic Resource Understanding](#), currently a recommended practice of the National Information Standards Organization....

Margaret Mann Citation

Francis L. Miksa, emeritus professor at the University of Texas at Austin School of Information, is the recipient of the 2009 Margaret Mann Citation presented by the ALCTS Cataloging and Classification Section. The Mann Citation recognizes outstanding professional achievement in cataloging or classification, and includes a \$2,000 scholarship donated in the recipient's honor to the library school of the winner's choice. Miksa has chosen the UT School of Information as the recipient....



Esther J. Piercy Award

ALCTS has named Laurel Tarulli, collection access librarian at Halifax (Nova Scotia) Public Libraries, the winner of the 2009 Esther J. Piercy Award. In addition to taking on leadership roles within the libraries and involving herself in a variety of local, national, and international professional organizations, Tarulli is actively publishing within the profession and maintains a blog for catalogers, [The Cataloguing Librarian](#)....



Nancy Huling honored with 2009 Mudge Award

Nancy Huling, head of reference at the University of Washington Libraries, has been selected as the winner of RUSA's 2009 Isadore Gilbert Mudge Award. The award recognizes distinguished contributions to reference librarianship. Huling's innovative approach to reference services, her scholarship, and her teaching and mentoring activities were cited as reasons for her selection....



Wirtz Labor Library receives 2009 Sessions Award

The U.S. Department of Labor's [Wirtz Labor Library](#) in Washington, D.C., is the recipient of RUSA's 2009 John Sessions Memorial Award. This annual award



In [Implementing Second Life: Ideas, Challenges, and Innovations](#)

the February issue of ALA's *Library Technology Reports*, virtual worlds virtuoso Joe Sanchez looks at the history of virtual worlds and how educators have used them as tools for learning in the 21st century. Sanchez extensively and objectively explores the pros and cons of using Second Life for both educators and librarians, and a chapter guest-authored by LIS student Jane Stimpson examines several examples of public libraries that have established a Second Life presence.

Calendar

Mar. 6:
[Federal and Armed Forces Round Table](#), Seminar on Libraries in Tough Economic Times, Masur Auditorium, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland.

Mar. 8:
[International Women's Day](#).

Mar. 18:
[Data Movement and](#)

recognizes a library that has made a significant effort to work with the labor community. The Wirtz Labor Library was selected for its efforts in supporting the history and contribution of the labor movement in the United States....



Louis Shores/Greenwood Publishing Group Award

[Blogging for a Good Book](#), a book-reviewing tool created and managed by the Williamsburg (Va.) Regional Library, has been selected as the winner of the 2009 Louis Shores/Greenwood Publishing Group Award. The award, administered by RUSA's Collection Development and Evaluation Section, recognizes excellence in book and media reviewing. The library's blog uses such 2.0 technology as subject tagging, online catalog integration, RSS feeds, and a commenting feature to encourage conversations between readers and reviewers....



2009 BRASS Student Travel Award winner

Frans Jozef Velasco Albarillo, a student of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's Library and Information Science program, has been selected as the 2009 winner of the RUSA Business Reference and Services Section Gale Cengage Learning Student Travel Award. Albarillo was selected for his assistantship with the Shider College of Business and his internship with the Hawaii Business Research Library....



Wharton School Fellowship winner

PLA has awarded Brian A. Bannon, chief of branches for San Francisco Public Library, a PLA Leadership Fellows scholarship for the Leading Organizational Change program at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. The Leadership Fellows program offers PLA members who are public library managers a chance to attend executive leadership training at some of the best universities in the United States....



LLAMA seeks Best of Show entries

Exhibit your library public relations masterpieces by entering LLAMA's annual Best of Show awards competition. Sponsored by the Swap and Shop Committee of the LLAMA Public Relations and Marketing Section, the competition recognizes the very best in public relations materials produced by libraries in the 2008 calendar year. Entries ([PDF file](#)) must be postmarked no later than April 17....

Naomi Klein wins first Warwick Prize

The first £50,000 Warwick Prize for Writing went to Canadian journalist Naomi Klein on February 24 for her book *The Shock Doctrine: The Rise of Disaster Capitalism*. The new prize, awarded by the University of Warwick, stands out as an international

Management.

Webinar offered by the National Information Standards Organization.

Mar. 22–24: Association of Information and Dissemination Centers.

Spring Meeting, Tampa Bay Grand Hyatt, Tampa, Florida. "Innovation in a Time of Great Change."

Apr. 6 –9: European Conference on Information Retrieval.

Centre de congrès Pierre Baudis, Toulouse, France.

Apr. 14–15: Records Administration Conference West and E-Records Forum.

Omni Hotel, Austin, Texas.

Apr. 15: Women's National Book Association, New York City Chapter.

panel discussion on "Food Books for Every Booklover's Palate," New York Public Library Jefferson Market Branch.

Apr. 19–25: Week of the Young Child.

Apr. 24–25: Second Annual Celebration of Latino Children's Literature.

Moore School of

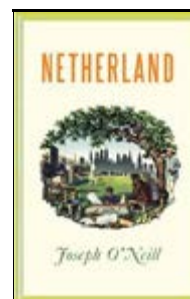
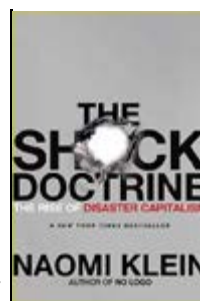
crossdisciplinary biennial award open to any genre or form of writing. This year's prize theme of "complexity" was interpreted differently by each writer and ranged from music criticism and scientific theory to Spanish fiction....

Warwick Prize

[2009 PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction](#)

Joseph O'Neill's novel *Netherland* was named the winner February 25 of the 2009 PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction by the PEN/Faulkner Foundation. The novel is about a Dutch-born equities analyst, his British wife, and their son, who live in New York during the September 11 terrorist attacks and their aftermath. The award comes with a prize of \$15,000 and will be given to O'Neill at a ceremony on May 9....

New York Times, Feb. 26



Seen Online

[City archives in Köln collapses](#)

Eyewitnesses drew [comparisons](#) with an earthquake and the September 11 terrorist attacks after the city archives building in Köln, Germany, suddenly fell apart in about 30 seconds around 2 p.m. on March 3. City officials say two persons are still missing and presumed dead.

Eberhard Illner, a former city archivist, said the [collapse](#) was a "catastrophe, not just for the city of Köln but for the history of Europe." Volunteers have already pulled close to 9,000 documents out of the basement and offices of employees, but many of the repository's 65,000 invaluable holdings, some dating as far back as the 10th century, may be lost forever. Officials believe the collapse may be related to the [construction](#) of an adjacent subway line....

Deutsche Welle, Mar. 3-4; *Der Spiegel*, Mar. 4; *Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger*, Mar. 4; KSTA-TV, Mar. 4



[Hard economic times a boon for libraries](#)

Rebecca Hodges, who has been unemployed for a year, sat down at a computer in a public library in New York. Hodges is not an avid reader, but she said going to the library is a way to look up job openings and use the internet for free. In times of recession, people take advantage of free services, and going to the library is among the most popular. In the past year, libraries across the country have seen dramatic increases in the use of their services....

CNN, Feb. 28

[The library as financial center](#)

A number of libraries around the country are getting grants to train librarians and set up programs to teach people about investing

Business, University of South Carolina, Columbia.

Apr. 26-29:

[Academic Library Advancement and Development Network](#), Annual

Conference, The Williamsburg Lodge at Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia. "Revolutionary Ideas in Library Advancement."

Apr. 27-29:

[International Conference on Information Technology](#), The

Orleans Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada. "New Generations."

May 1:

[Art of Storytelling Workshop](#), Miami-

Dade Public Library System Main Library, Miami, Florida.

May 18-22:

[Summer Institute for Humanities Data Curation](#), University of

Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Apply by March 7.

May 27-30:

[Global Green International Trade Show](#), Ontario (Calif.)

Convention Center. Programs, workshops, and seminars on green topics.

June 14-17:

[Special Libraries Association](#), Annual

Conference, Walter E. Washington Convention



through a [collaboration](#) between FINRA and ALA. John Gannon, president of the FINRA investor education foundation, said his organization turned to libraries because libraries have the ability to reach large numbers of people who may need help with their money....

NPR Weekend Edition, Feb. 28

[Big challenges for new Seattle librarian](#)

Seattle's new city librarian, Susan Hildreth, has been on the job only a few days, but she is clearly in her element among the book stacks, computer screens, and people who make up the Seattle Public Library. She will be challenged to keep programs, staff, and library hours stable just as the city is hit with deep budget cuts. The city general fund is expected to be down \$30 million when revised revenue projections are reported later this month....

Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Mar. 4

[21st-century skills under fire](#) (subscription required)

The phrase "21st-century skills" is everywhere in education policy discussions these days, from faculty lounges to the highest echelons of the U.S. education system. Broadly speaking, it refers to a push for schools to teach critical-thinking, analytical, and technology skills in addition to the "soft skills" of creativity, collaboration, and communication. But now a group of researchers, historians, and policymakers from across the political spectrum are raising a red flag about the agenda as embodied by the Tucson, Arizona-based Partnership for 21st Century Skills, its leading advocacy group....

Education Week, Mar. 2

[Harvard College Library to consolidate](#)

In an attempt to reduce its budget for next year by \$12 million, Harvard College Library—which manages the circulation of over 11 million items—will shuffle personnel to streamline its services and will likely be unable to avoid layoffs this spring. For now, the move will require the displacement of 17 workers in the Widener serial services division to a facility currently occupied by HCL's technical services unit....

Harvard Crimson, Feb. 24

[UNC's Wilson Library in major need of a retrofitting](#)

The University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill's Wilson Library, home to some of the state's oldest records, is stuck in state-mandated paralysis. Until a sprinkler system is installed and two new exterior stairwells are added, at least 60% of the 300,000-square-foot library's usable space is essentially off-limits for any use other than storage. That means no offices, no staff work spaces, and no people allowed until the university can find \$10–\$12 million to start the retrofitting. But the state is slashing funding to universities and the project isn't at the top of the campus construction priority list....

Raleigh (N.C.) News and Observer, Mar. 4



[Rampant mold reported at](#)

Center, Washington, D.C.

June 20–25:

[Association of Seventh-Day Adventist Librarians](#),

Annual Conference, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan.

Oct. 4–8:

[31st National Media Market](#),

Embassy Suites and Griffin Gate Marriott Resort, Lexington, Kentucky.

For four days, 55 of the nation's top-quality educational media producers and distributors offer on-demand previews of new releases, products, and services.

Oct. 19–22:

[Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums](#),

Annual Conference, Red Lion on the River, Portland, Oregon. "Streams of Language, Memories, and Lifeways."

Nov. 6:

[Brick and Click Libraries](#), Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville.

@ [More...](#)

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ALA American Library Association

AL Direct is a free electronic

[Lubbock branch](#)

A hodgepodge of molds that flourished in Lubbock (Tex.) Public Library's busiest branch may leave the building [beyond repair](#). Mold greeted investigators everywhere they looked in the Godeke branch in mid-February, and signs of further infestation peeked out from where they couldn't, according to a report released February 24. City officials closed the branch January 28 to remove materials and prepare for an extensive mold inspection, which found that cracks in the building's exterior walls and roof had allowed water to seep in....
Lubbock (Tex.) Avalanche-Journal, Feb. 19, 25; KLBK-TV, Lubbock, Feb. 6



[Task force finds multiple problems in Chattanooga](#)

Officials say revitalizing the Chattanooga–Hamilton County (Tenn.) Bicentennial Library is a long-term and desperately needed goal, but there's one snag—no money. The February 16 report ([PDF file](#)) of a task force commissioned by Mayor Ron Littlefield said that funding has not kept pace with the library's needs and that a lack of clear governance, a cloudy set of goals, and fuzzy relationships with the public and business sector have led to a deterioration in the system's quality....

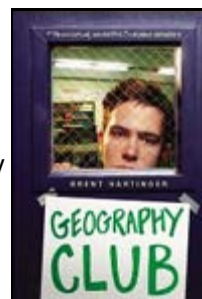
Chattanooga (Tenn.) Times Free Press, Feb. 22



[Oversized crowd postpones West Bend complaint hearing](#)

An overflow crowd forced the West Bend (Wis.) Community Memorial Library board to cancel its March 3 meeting called to discuss a complaint filed by Ginny and Jim Maziarka about the appropriateness of gay materials in the library. Teens and adults had hoped to offer their opinions on the subject, but the numbers exceeded the 265-seat fire-code capacity of the City Hall council chambers. The Maziarkas consider two books in particular, *The Perks of Being A Wallflower* and *The Geography Club*, inappropriate for the YA literature section....

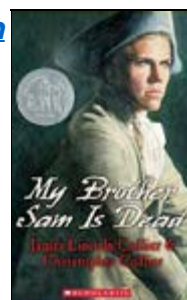
Greater Milwaukee Today, Mar. 4



[Muscogee County allows My Brother Sam in schools](#)

The Muscogee County (Ga.) School District's media committee met February 25 and decided that *My Brother Sam Is Dead* by James Lincoln Collier and Christopher Collier could remain on school library shelves. Although complainant Shirley Waller was in the audience, she didn't realize she was allowed to speak. Now, after hearing the opinions of other parents, she is pushing for parental approval of certain titles rather than a ban....

Columbus (Ga.) Ledger-Enquirer, Mar. 1



[Suspended professor allowed to use college library](#)

A visiting French professor at Goucher College in Towson, Maryland, who was barred from campus in December after officials learned of his genocide indictment in Rwanda will be allowed to use the school's

newsletter emailed every Wednesday to personal members of the [American Library Association](#) and subscribers.

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ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

library. Goucher President Sanford J. Ungar made the decision after receiving a petition signed by members of the campus community seeking to let Leopold Munyakazi use the library. Munyakazi denies [allegations](#) that he revealed hiding spots of ethnic Tutsis who were targeted by machete-wielding Hutu militias in the 1994 genocide....

Baltimore Sun, Feb. 3, 26

[Patrons oppose closing St. Paul branch](#)

St. Paul (Minn.) Public Library's Hamline Midway branch, the third-least-visited of the city's 13 libraries, is potentially on the chopping block. Library Director Melanie Huggins recommended shuttering Hamline, reducing library hours everywhere, and slashing the system's materials budget after Mayor Chris Coleman requested that all city departments come up with ways to cut their 2009 budgets by 14%. Red pants, pullovers, shirts, scarves, and bright-red "Save Our Library" buttons speckled the crowd of at least 270 that showed up February 24 for the second of Coleman's public meetings. Watch the [video](#) (7:16)....

St. Paul (Minn.) Pioneer Press, Feb. 24



Historical libraries cutting hours, staffing

Budget constraints have forced at least three historical libraries to close temporarily or otherwise limit hours open to the public. The New Jersey Historical Society in Newark [closed](#) its library indefinitely February 17, furloughing staff for an undetermined period; the research library will now be open only by appointment. On March 4, the Arizona State Library's Polly Rosenbaum Archives and History Building reading and meeting rooms [closed temporarily](#) due to [budget reductions](#). And the Oregon Historical Library in Portland [closed temporarily](#) from February 28 to March 13, with limited access thereafter....

Newark (N.J.) Star-Ledger, Feb. 14; Arizona State Library; Phoenix *Arizona Republic*, Mar. 4; Oregon Historical Society

[Historical society recovers after flood damage](#)

The California Historical Society in San Francisco reopened in February after a car hit a fire hydrant December 19, causing a flood that damaged the building and more than 1,500 historic books. The library called on Belfor Property Restoration in Fort Worth, Texas, to conserve some 670 soggy books dating back to the 1920s. Repair to the building has been completed, but some of the books won't be reshelfed until the end of March....

San Francisco Chronicle, Mar. 2

[Minor damage after National Library of Scotland flood](#)

Some 200 books were seriously damaged in the National Library of Scotland in Edinburgh after the failure of a sprinkler pipe on the top story caused 5,000 liters of water to run through all 12 floors. The potentially catastrophic incident late on the evening of February 26 forced 30 library staff to work through the night to clear standing water and spend the day beginning the task of drying out the affected volumes. An additional 4,000 bound volumes and 500–600 manuscript volumes and boxes were affected and were moved for drying....

The Times (U.K.), Feb. 28; National Library of Scotland, Mar. 2

[Court dismisses hostage lawsuit against Libya](#)

A federal court has dismissed a lawsuit against Libya brought by the estate of American librarian Peter Kilburn, who was kidnapped, held hostage, and killed in retaliation for a U.S. raid on the country in 1986. Kilburn's relatives and the United States asked the court to dismiss the case so the family can seek compensation from a \$1.8-billion fund to compensate victims of Libyan-linked terror attacks. Kilburn was a librarian at the American University in Beirut when he was abducted from his apartment in December 1984....

Associated Press, Feb. 26

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Scriblio 2.7 released](#)

It's been a long time coming, but it's finally time to call Scriblio 2.7 stable. It's available at the WordPress [plugins repository](#). The new version features an internal data model that supports original cataloging of books and archive items, has some resemblance to MARC and other formats, and supports the automatic merging of records from multiple sources. The new version also has a refactored SQL query architecture, internal support for representing the collection in a variety of forms, and better support for automating the relationship between Scriblio and external ILSs or other systems....

Scriblio Social Library System, Feb. 25



[85 tools for freelancers and web workers](#)

Sean P. Aune writes: "Deciding to become a freelance worker can be a scary proposition. Luckily there are numerous resources out there that not only help you find more work, but also loads of tools to help you do your job more efficiently with a professional edge. We've gathered over 85 tools and job sites for a variety of freelancers and web workers. While a lot of these items are focused on web design elements such as photography, programming, and writing, we made sure to include something for everyone."...

Mashable, Mar. 3



[Microsoft introduces browser-based OS](#)

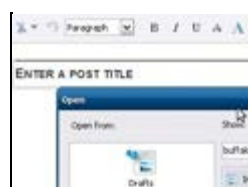
Lidija Davis writes: "On February 19, [Microsoft Research](#) released an interesting paper ([PDF file](#)) about a web browser it calls Gazelle, which is constructed in such a way to act like an operating system. The idea behind Gazelle is to create a browser that is more secure for the now typical dynamic pages we find on the web. According to Microsoft, Gazelle is different from existing browsers, as no existing browsers, including new architectures, have a multiprincipal operating system constructed in such a way that provides the browser-based OS exclusive control to manage the protection of all system resources."...

ReadWriteWeb, Feb. 22

[Top 10 tools for your own domain](#)

Kevin Purdy writes: "Having your own hosted web domain has never been cheaper, or easier, with the vast array of free resources out there. Here are our 10 favorite tools to help anyone launch

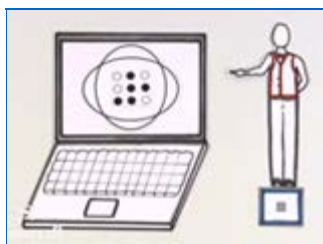
and maintain their internet presence."...
Lifehacker, Feb. 28



Computer hardware in plain English

Sachi and Lee Lefever of Commoncraft have put together a video explanation (3:13) of the basic parts of computers and what they do to make computers work. The focus is on the hard drive, RAM, and processor, and how computer parts are like rooms in your house....

Commoncraft, Feb. 25



Publishing

Amazon backpedals on Kindle 2 text-to-speech feature

Following the debut of the Kindle 2, the 9,000-member Authors Guild [claimed](#) the gadget's text-to-speech feature created a derivative work and violated copyright—despite endorsements by authors [Wil Wheaton](#), [Neil Gaiman](#), and [John Scalzi](#). Guild Executive Director Paul Aiken said many publishers were also angered over the speech function, adding that Amazon never consulted beforehand with either of those groups. Amazon responded February 27 by handing publishers the ability to disable the feature on any title they choose....

Cnet News, Mar. 1; *New York Times*, Feb. 24; WWdN: In Exile, Feb. 27; Neil Gaiman's Journal, Feb. 11; Whatever, Feb. 27

Fear the Kindle

Farhad Manjoo writes: "If the Kindle succeeds on its current terms, and all signs suggest it'll be a blockbuster, Amazon will make a bundle. But everyone else with a stake in a vibrant book industry—authors, publishers, libraries, chain bookstores, indie bookstores, and readers—stands to lose out. In exchange for its convenience, the Kindle locks you down with more rules than the Army Field Manual."...

Slate, Feb. 26

It's still winter!

Cindy Dobrez and Lynn Rutan write: "Despite the fact that we are yearning for spring, it is still winter here in Michigan. It is only 10 degrees and we still have piles of snow on the ground. The only thing that really helps is to grab a cup of hot coffee, pile on the blankets, and nestle in with a really good shivery book. We each have one to suggest."...

Bookends, Mar. 1



The scan-on-demand movement

Barbara Fister writes: "[Penn](#) is the latest university to offer scan-on-demand with quality print output. [Emory](#) uses the same Kirtas

machine to offer a curated collection of books. [Michigan](#) has an Espresso machine standing by to instantly print copies. [Cornell](#) sells thousands of scanned books printed on demand through Amazon's POD company. Basically, this effort is an interlibrary loan of nonreturnables that happen to be book-sized and often go direct to the patron. It's a terrific development. But . . . you knew there'd be a but, didn't you?"...

ACRLog, Feb. 25; *Library Journal*, Feb. 25



Actions & Answers

[The LJ Index: Too much, too late](#)

American Libraries Editor in Chief Leonard Kniffel writes: "Back in January 1999, *AL* published the first installment of Tom Hennen's HAPLR Index, ranking America's public libraries using statistics collected by the Federal-State Cooperative System. Now, 10 years later, here comes *Library Journal* with the 'LJ Index of Public Library Service,' a new ranking system touted as 'Better Than Hennen.' This morning I talked with Hennen, who said he was 'perplexed' by many of the claims that Keith Lance and Ray Lyons make for the superiority of their system."...

AL Inside Scoop, Mar. 3

[How to give a talk while people are twittering](#)

Olivia Mitchell writes: "People used to whisper to each other or pass hand-scribbled notes during presentations. Now these notes are going digital on Twitter or via conference-provided chat rooms. As a presenter, the idea of presenting while people are talking about you is disconcerting. But to balance that, there are huge benefits to the individual members of the audience and to the overall output of a conference or meeting."...

Pistachio, Feb. 23

[If Gutenberg could tweet](#)

Most people think Twitter was created in 2006. These are same people who think Richard Gere created Buddhism in the 1990s, just before Madonna created yoga. Folks, like the sun, and the moon, and the stars, Twitter has always been. This site proves it beyond a shadow of a doubt. Now, with Historical Tweets, history's most amazing men and women can be fully understood, a mere 140 characters at a time....

Historical Tweets



[To MLIS or not to MLIS?](#)

Genevieve Williams writes: "What's an MLIS worth? According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, about \$24,000—when you compare the salaries of a master's degreed librarian and a paraprofessional. When considering whether to earn an MLIS, pay is just one variable. You also need to consider the transferability of the skillset, the value of professional training versus learning on the job, what librarians and other info pros are asked to do that the MLIS doesn't cover, other options for professional training beyond the MLIS, and the

value of the MLIS as a professional credential.”...

Info Career Trends, Mar. 2

OCLC Expert Community Experiment

In response to requests from the cataloging community, OCLC has introduced the [Expert Community Experiment](#), which enables OCLC members to make more changes to WorldCat records. During the experiment, OCLC libraries with full-level cataloging authorizations will have the ability to improve and upgrade WorldCat master bibliographic records. The additional capabilities provided by the experiment are an expansion of those that have been available through various database enrichment programs since 1991....

OCLC, Feb. 26



Advancing global internet freedom

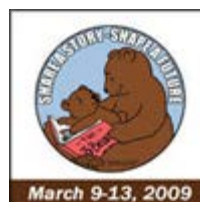
Leslie Harris writes: “In the wake of troubling reports as recently as last year that Western companies were assisting China with internet censorship, governments around the world seemed poised to regulate the conduct of internet companies. Lawmakers appear to have stepped back, but the challenges of advancing global internet freedom remain. The [Global Online Freedom Act of 2007](#) would have made it a crime for internet companies to turn over personal information to governments in cases where that information could be used to punish dissent. The bill produced a firestorm of controversy.”...

The Great Debate, Mar. 3

Share a story, shape a future

“Share a story—shape a future” is an ensemble effort by bloggers to celebrate reading and encourage each other to reach beyond ourselves and do it in a way that we are neither judging nor instructing others. The event begins March 9 and lasts one week. Each day a group of bloggers will share ideas around a specific theme. There are a number of book giveaways and free downloads that will be announced by the various hosts. Mary Burkey of [Audiobooker](#) is taking part....

Share a Story—Shape a Future, Feb. 24; Audiobooker, Feb. 28



How to talk about books

Neil Hollands writes: “First attempts at book group discussion can be awkward. When I was first getting started, I’d make comments that I thought were insightful, but the group would react as if I’d made armpit noises at the Mozart society or talked about my last bout with Montezuma’s revenge at high tea with the Queen. My posts for the next few weeks will provide a few hints to help you show grace under book group pressure.”...

Book Group Buzz, Feb. 27

Prepare for MayDay

Libraries, museums, archives, and arts and historic-preservation organizations across the nation are setting aside May 1 to participate in MayDay, a national effort to prepare for disasters. Sponsored by Heritage Preservation and other members of the Heritage Emergency National Task Force, MayDay encourages organizations to take one simple step to protect the art, artifacts, records, and historic sites



they hold in trust....

Heritage Preservation

Surprising special collections

Kristin Ohlson writes: "I walk through an arched marble doorway and into one of the loveliest rooms I've seen anywhere. Designed to look like a Renaissance Library, the Cleveland Public Library's [John Griswold White Reading Room](#) offers sweeping views of Lake Erie and downtown Cleveland, as well as a dazzling abundance of venerable books and objects. A lawyer and scholar who died in 1928, White was one of the library's greatest benefactors and his prodigious collections fill this room."...

Smithsonian, Mar. 1



Surveillance self-defense

The Electronic Frontier Foundation has created a Surveillance Self-



Defense website to educate the American public about the law and technology of government surveillance in the United States, providing the information and tools necessary to evaluate the threat of surveillance and take appropriate steps to defend against it. What can the government legally do to spy on your computer data and communications? And what can you legally do to protect yourself against such spying?...

Electronic Frontier Foundation

NISO open teleconferences

Join the National Information Standards Organization on free conference calls throughout the year to learn about new projects and to provide the organization with feedback on areas where NISO ought to be engaged. Teleconferences are held 3–4 p.m. Eastern time on the second Monday of each month (except July and September). To join, simply dial (877) 375-2160 and enter the code 17800743....

National Information Standards Organization

British library users increasingly go online

More people than ever in the United Kingdom are accessing library services online, with a 20% rise recorded, according to figures published March 3 by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy. However, with book borrowing and library visitors slightly down over last year, the Museums, Libraries, and Archives Council said there was no room for complacency and urged libraries to deliver a high-quality core service that provides a wide range of books for loan, comprehensive reference sources, and advice from staff....

Museums, Libraries, and Archives Council, Mar. 3

Why South Carolinians love the library

Visitors to the 13th Annual South Carolina Book Festival stopped by the State Library's exhibit booth and gave reasons why they love their libraries in this video (2:42).

South Carolina State Library

Communications Director Curtis R. Rogers set up a videocamera at the festival, held February 27 through March 1 at the Columbia Convention Center....



YouTube, Mar. 1

[Go back to the Top](#)

AL Direct, March 4, 2009

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The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | March 4, 2009

Contents

U.S. & World News [[#usworld](#)]
ALA News [[#alanews](#)]
Booklist Online [[#booklist](#)]
Division News [[#divisionnews](#)]
Round Table News [[#roundtable](#)]
Awards [[#awards](#)]
Seen Online [[#seenonline](#)]
Tech Talk [[#techtalk](#)]
Publishing [[#publishing](#)]
Actions & Answers [[#actionsanswers](#)]
Calendar [[#datebook](#)]

[<http://www.sirsidynix.com/Solutions/Products/portalsearch.php>]

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

=====

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7I84RvK7LuE>]Nebraska auditor cries foul on gaming

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/February2009/nebrgamingaudit.cfm>]

A 10-minute YouTube video [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7I84RvK7LuE>] posted by the Nebraska Library Commission on January 18, 2008, to announce the Commission's purchase of Rock Band and Dance Dance Revolution has resulted—roughly a year later—in an audit (PDF file

[http://www.auditors.state.ne.us/local/pdfSearch/PDF/2009_Library_Commission_Review.pdf]) issued February 24. In it, Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts Mike Foley concluded that “the purchase of gaming equipment is a questionable use of public funds,” and that “using social websites and gaming equipment on State time and with State computers . . . appears to be an inappropriate use of public funds.”

American Libraries Online, Feb. 27

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q1NHI-Z9j4g>]ALA releases gaming toolkit
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/olosgamingtoolkit.cfm>]

In recognition of the increasing value of gaming to literacy improvement, ALA—with assistance from a \$1 million grant from the Verizon Foundation—has developed the Librarian's Guide to Gaming: An Online Toolkit for Building Gaming @ your library
[<http://librarygamingtoolkit.org/>]. The toolkit includes a wide range of resources, contributed by expert gaming librarians across the country, to help librarians create, fund, and evaluate gaming experiences in the library. Beth Gallaway (above) offers an introduction
[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q1NHI-Z9j4g>]....

Celebrate National Library Workers Day

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/apanlwd.cfm>]

The ALA—Allied Professional Association encourages all library staff and patrons nationwide to participate in National Library Workers Day on April 14 during National Library Week. This day is a time to honor the contributions of all library workers, including librarians, support staff, and others who make library services possible. To participate, libraries can purchase NLWD products and make use of the celebration ideas and promotional materials on the NLWD website
[<http://www.ala-apa.org/about/nlwd.html>], such as inviting the public, funders, and officials in to see what really happens in the library. Library patrons and staff can also nominate
[<http://www.ala-apa.org/about/nlwdstarsform.html>] their favorite library worker for a Star or a Student Star....

Coalition building in your community

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2154>]

Would you like an extra set of hands to help get the word out about your library? When managed correctly, coalitions can bring needed expertise, credibility, and resources to bear on your efforts to advocate for your library. ALA Washington Office staff and other library experts will share criteria for getting involved in coalitions, secrets for selecting partners, and ideas for coordinating effective action in a webinar on March 18, 4–5 p.m. Eastern time, featuring Stephanie Vance....
District Dispatch, Mar. 3

E-government in your library

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2164>]

The ALA Office of Government Relations is interested in learning more about what types of e-government and employment services are being provided in libraries. Your answers on this survey
[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=xMQUFMRaA9uFegDsSHJ93A_3d_3d.] will help them in their work with legislators in Washington, D.C., as they advocate for library funding and other library interests. Please answer the survey questions by March 20....

District Dispatch, Mar. 3

Twitter on ALA, and some advice

[<http://theshiftedlibrarian.com/archives/2009/02/27/twitter-on-ala-and-some-advice.html>]

Jenny Levine writes: “Going into the ALA Midwinter Meeting last month, I knew Twitter was going to play a much more prominent role than it had in the past. And wow, did Twitter play a big part.

[<http://kenleyneufeld.com/2009/01/27/twitter-dominated-ala-midwinter/>] If you had asked me, I wouldn’t have predicted that four councilors would tweet from the floor during council sessions, thereby providing an effective, real-time transcript of what was happening. Even beyond that, I got to participate in meetings I wasn’t physically at (from within other meetings), as did people who weren’t even in Denver.

And good things

[<http://librarygarden.blogspot.com/2009/02/twitiquette-short-but-helpful-guide-to.html>] came from all of it.”...

The Shifted Librarian, Feb. 27; misc.joy, Jan. 27; Library Garden, Feb. 3

Charles Fletcher Lummis and The Bibliosmiles

[<http://libraryhistorybuff.blogspot.com/2009/03/charles-lummis-bibliosmiles.html>]

Although he was only a librarian for five years (as director of the Los Angeles Public Library, 1905–1910), Charles Fletcher Lummis was one of the most colorful librarians in California history. Lummis created The Bibliosmiles, a tongue-in-cheek organization that was a “Rally of Librarians Who Are Nevertheless Human” at the 1906 ALA Annual Conference in Narragansett, Rhode Island, and convened during four later conferences. Their password was “Cheer up, ALA,” and at their annual dinner they joyously sang “My Dewey, ’Tis of Thee, Sweet Ex- of Albany,” and other songs by Lummis....

Library History Buff Blog, Mar. 1

Featured review: Media

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3242981]

Hammett, Dashiell. *The Maltese Falcon*. Dramatized by Michael Madsen and others. Dec. 2008. 3 hr. Blackstone, CD (978-1-4332-5248-8).

Wow! Whether or not you’ve read Hammett’s classic noir detective novel or seen the 1941 movie, you will be entranced by this magnificent adaptation, which is a solid reminder of the power of audio.

Hammett’s novel, set in San Francisco in the 1920s, introduces cynical detective Sam Spade, who becomes involved in the search for the legendary falcon created for Emperor Charles V. Caught up in a deadly conspiracy involving the beautiful but treacherous Brigid O’Shaughnessy, the formidable Kasper Gutman, and the slippery Joel Cairo, Spade must see beyond their lies and betrayals to uncover the truth, if not the prize. In this mystery rich in characters, the actors show an impeccable understanding of their roles. Madsen’s gravelly voice gives Spade a hard edge, a tough-guy image to match the slang of the mean streets. As the affably sinister Gutman, Edward Herrmann excels, playing the part to the hilt. And Sandra Oh, as the heartless

O’Shaughnessy, alternates between scheming enchantress and helpless beauty....

Watchmen

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3346966]

Gordon Flagg writes: “The imminent big-screen adaptation of Watchmen has brought renewed attention to that groundbreaking graphic novel, which has reappeared on best-seller lists in anticipation of the movie. Watchmen, one of Time’s 100 best English-language novels of the 20th century, posits the existence of costumed crime-fighters, only one of whom possesses actual superpowers, in a world recognizably our own. The one genuinely super-powered figure, omnipotent Doctor Manhattan, has altered nearly every aspect of society, from far-reaching technological advances made possible by his ability to manipulate atoms, to world politics—having a godlike being on its side gives the U.S. dominance in the Cold War and enables Richard Nixon’s fifth term, though ultimately it leads to the brink of nuclear war.”...

?

[<http://bookgroupbuzz.booklistonline.com/2009/03/03/who-discusses-the-watchmen/>]

Kaite Stover writes: “A teacher friend of mine told me he is having his senior English class read Watchmen by Alan Moore and Dave Gibbons for a class assignment. Mark has always been a fan of Watchmen and he showed me his dog-eared bedraggled copy of days ago and said he was on his tenth reading. Any book that makes someone read it 10 times has got to be good, so I picked up Watchmen and started reading. I was immediately absorbed by these flawed and tragic superheroes and found them all so much more easily identifiable than Superman, Batman, and Wonder Woman. I started thinking about how this graphic novel could be discussed in a group setting and what topics I’d want to cover.”...

Book Group Buzz, Mar. 3

@ Visit Booklist Online [<http://www.booklistonline.com/>] for other reviews and much more....

Division News

=====

ACRL to discuss social networking

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/acrlcampuslibsthive.cfm>]

More than 3,000 librarians and staff from college and university libraries nationwide will meet in Seattle March 12–15 for ACRL’s 14th National Conference to discuss a host of pressing issues affecting higher education. Among those issues is how college students in the age of Google, Facebook, and Twitter are using their libraries differently than students did a decade ago. The conference will also focus on interactive gaming and social networking technology in libraries, the future of reference and online searching, open access to research, distance learning, and e-cruitment....

Gaming, music, movies, and more at Teen Tech Week

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/yaalsattweconomy.cfm>]

At a time when disposable income is shrinking dramatically, teens from coast to coast are thinking twice before shopping in malls, buying movie tickets, or spending money on video games—why buy when you can borrow? During Teen Tech Week

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/teentechweek/ttw09/home.cfm>], March 8–14, teens will take advantage of the many free technology resources available at their school and public libraries. This event, sponsored by YALSA, is an opportunity for libraries to showcase the many free technology resources for teens. This year's theme is Press Play @ your library, which encourages teens to literally "press play" on digital devices at the library....

AASL preconference workshops

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/aaslpconferences.cfm>]

AASL's 14th National Conference and Exhibition promises to "Rev Up Learning @ your library" with preconference workshops geared toward school library media specialists and their programs. Preconference sessions, held November 4–5, will include "Standards for the 21st-Century Learner in Action," "AASL School Library Advocacy Institute," "Beyond Simple Web Searching—Guerrilla Tactics to Get the Information You Want and Know What You're Getting," and "Eating Elephant 2.0 One Bite at a Time: Using the Read-Write Web in Classrooms and Libraries." The Early Bird registration deadline is July 14....

Scholarly Communication 101 road show

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/acrlscroadshow.cfm>]

ACRL is taking scholarly communication on the road in 2009 with a workshop, Scholarly Communication 101: Starting with the Basics [<http://acrl.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/issues/scholarlycomm/roadshow.cfm>]. This interactive overview of scholarly communication highlights individual or institutional strategic planning and action. Four modules focus on new methods of scholarly publishing and communication, copyright and intellectual property, economics, and open access. Institutions interested in hosting should apply by April 13....

2007 Academic Library Trends and Statistics

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/acrlacademiclibstats.cfm>]

ACRL has released its 2007 Academic Library Trends and Statistics, the latest in a series of annual publications that describe the collections, staffing, expenditures, and service activities of academic libraries. The publication includes survey data from 1,311 academic libraries and covers five major categories of expenditures. The print edition is available [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2628>] for purchase and will be sold at the 2009 ACRL National Conference in Seattle. An online edition is also available [<http://acrl.telusys.net/trendstat/2007/index.html>]....

ASCLA LSSPS annual dinner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/asclalsspsdinner.cfm>]

The Libraries Serving Special Populations Section of ASCLA invites all current and potential members to its annual dinner, held during the ALA Annual Conference, on July 12, 6:30–8:30 p.m., at Emilio's Tapas Sol y Nieve, 215 East Ohio St., Chicago. The dinner is an opportunity to visit old colleagues and meet new ones employed in library services for special populations. Register online [<http://www.ala.org/Template.cfm?Section=Events&Template=/CFApps/Experient/Redirect.cfm&Meeting=A09>] or call (800) 974-3084....

ASCLA programs in Chicago

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/february2009/asclaexpertise.cfm>]

ASCLA invites all attendees of ALA Annual Conference in Chicago to its programs

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/ascla/asclaevents/annual09/index.cfm>], which address such topics as services to special populations, collaboration, and resource sharing. By sharing the expertise of its members with conference attendees, ASCLA provides opportunities for all library staff to improve service delivery at their libraries and learn about tools that will help them solve challenges they are facing....

LLAMA sponsors fundraiser at Second City Theatre

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/llamasecondcity.cfm>]

Tickets are available for "A Night of Laughs at Chicago's Second City," presented by LLAMA at 7 p.m. on July 10, during the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Come for a night of improvisational comedy at the theatre that launched the careers of such comic greats as Tina Fey, John Belushi, Mike Myers, Bill Murray, Gilda Radner, and countless others. A portion of the ticket price will help support future LLAMA programming. Purchase tickets on the ALA Annual Conference website [<http://www.ala.org/annual>]....

PLA to offer Serving Diverse Populations workshop

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/pladiversepopworkshop.cfm>]

To help public librarians learn how to effectively serve diverse populations, PLA is offering an intensive two-day workshop designed to teach these practical skills in Spokane, Washington, April 14–15, as a preconference during the Washington Library Association annual conference. The workshop will be held at the Spokane Public Library....

YALSA activities in Chicago

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/yalsaannual.cfm>]

YALSA events at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago begin on July 9 with two preconferences: "Genre Galaxy: Explore the Universe of Teen Reading," a full-day preconference including lunch; and "Moving Up the YA Career Ladder," a half-day preconference. Other activities include a happy hour and fashion show, YALSA 101, and awards events....

YALSA names new blog manager

[[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/ya
lsablogmanager.cfm](http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/ya
lsablogmanager.cfm)]

YALSA has named Heidi Dolamore, community library manager at the Contra Costa County Community Resource Center in San Pablo, California, the manager of the YALSA Blog, [<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/>] effective in July. Dolamore will work with YALSA to oversee the content and look of the blog and recruit and oversee bloggers for the site....

Round Table News

Join a round table [http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/round_tables.cfm]

Joining one of ALA's 17 round tables is a great way to become involved in ALA. Most have publications and present programs during ALA Annual Conferences, so round tables are effective vehicles through which to express yourself. They also are a means for you to affect ALA policy, not only by helping to write policy, but also by having a voice on ALA Council. Moreover, each group elects its own officers, allowing you to become involved as an elected leader....

Awards

Equality Award

[[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/go
vernanceequalityaward.cfm](http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/go
vernanceequalityaward.cfm)]

Karen Downing has received the 2009 ALA Equality Award, which honors an outstanding individual or group promoting equality in the library profession. Downing, foundation/grants and executive research service librarian with the University of Michigan Library, was selected for her accomplishments in promoting diversity and equality in the library profession. These efforts include her pursuit of a doctoral degree regarding "The Relationship between Social Identity and Role Performance." The award will be presented at the Award Ceremony and Reception July 14 during the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago....

Paul Howard Award for Courage

[[http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/go
vernance2009howard.cfm](http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/go
vernance2009howard.cfm)]

Judith Flint, Amy Grasmick, and Christine Lesinski of the Kimball Public Library, in Randolph, Vermont, are the recipients of the ALA Paul Howard Award for Courage. The \$1,000 biannual award and citation honors an individual or group exhibiting unusual courage for the benefit of library programs or services. Flint is youth librarian, Grasmick is the director, and Lesinski is chair of the board of trustees. The three were recognized for their firm response to a request by a Vermont state police detective investigating the reported disappearance [<http://www.rutlandherald.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2008807200406>] of

12-year-old Brooke Bennett in 2008....

Ulrich's Serials Librarianship Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/alctsulrichs.cfm>]

Brian Green is the 2009 recipient of the ALCTS Ulrich's Serials Librarianship Award. This award for distinguished contributions to serials consists of a citation and \$1,500 donated by ProQuest. Green is founder and manager of the international group EDItEUR [<http://www.editeur.org/>] and has contributed and led the development of various standards that facilitate the expedient and accurate handling of serials processes and transactions. He serves as executive director of the International ISBN Agency....

Blackwell's Scholarship Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/alctsblackwells.cfm>]

The 2009 ALCTS Blackwell's Scholarship Award goes to Karen Schmidt, Wendy Allen Shelburne, and David Steven Vess for their article "Approaches to Selection, Access, and Collection Development in the Web World: A Case Study with Fugitive Literature," published in *Library Resources & Technical Services* 52, no. 3 (July 2008): 184–191. This award honors the author of the year's outstanding monograph or article in the field of resources development in libraries....

Coutts Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/alctscoutts.cfm>]

Judy Luther, president of Informed Strategies, and Selden Lamoureux, electronic resources librarian at North Carolina State University libraries, have won the 2009 Coutts Award for Innovation in Electronic Resources Management, presented by the Collection Management and Development Section of ALCTS. The award recognizes significant and innovative contributions to electronic collections management and development practice. Luther and Lamoureux were instrumental in developing SERU: A Shared Electronic Resource Understanding, [<http://www.niso.org/workrooms/seru>] currently a recommended practice of the National Information Standards Organization....

Margaret Mann Citation

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/alctsmann.cfm>]

Francis L. Miksa, emeritus professor at the University of Texas at Austin School of Information, is the recipient of the 2009 Margaret Mann Citation presented by the ALCTS Cataloging and Classification Section. The Mann Citation recognizes outstanding professional achievement in cataloging or classification, and includes a \$2,000 scholarship donated in the recipient's honor to the library school of the winner's choice. Miksa has chosen the UT School of Information as the recipient....

Esther J. Piercy Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/al>

ctspiercy.cfm]

ALCTS has named Laurel Tarulli, collection access librarian at Halifax (Nova Scotia) Public Libraries, the winner of the 2009 Esther J. Piercy Award. In addition to taking on leadership roles within the libraries and involving herself in a variety of local, national, and international professional organizations, Tarulli is actively publishing within the profession and maintains a blog for catalogers, The Cataloguing Librarian [<http://laureltarulli.wordpress.com/>]....

Nancy Huling honored with 2009 Mudge Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/ru samudge.cfm>]

Nancy Huling, head of reference at the University of Washington Libraries, has been selected as the winner of RUSA's 2009 Isadore Gilbert Mudge Award. The award recognizes distinguished contributions to reference librarianship. Huling's innovative approach to reference services, her scholarship, and her teaching and mentoring activities were cited as reasons for her selection....

Wirtz Labor Library receives 2009 Sessions Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/ru sasessionsaward.cfm>]

The U.S. Department of Labor's Wirtz Labor Library [<http://www.dol.gov/oasam/library/>] in Washington, D.C., is the recipient of RUSA's 2009 John Sessions Memorial Award. This annual award recognizes a library that has made a significant effort to work with the labor community. The Wirtz Labor Library was selected for its efforts in supporting the history and contribution of the labor movement in the United States....

Louis Shores/Greenwood Publishing Group Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/ru sagreenwood.cfm>]

Blogging for a Good Book [<http://bfgb.wordpress.com/>], a book-reviewing tool created and managed by the Williamsburg (Va.) Regional Library, has been selected as the winner of the 2009 Louis Shores/Greenwood Publishing Group Award. The award, administered by RUSA's Collection Development and Evaluation Section, recognizes excellence in book and media reviewing. The library's blog uses such 2.0 technology as subject tagging, online catalog integration, RSS feeds, and a commenting feature to encourage conversations between readers and reviewers....

2009 BRASS Student Travel Award winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/ru sa2009brass.cfm>]

Frans Jozef Velasco Albarillo, a student of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's Library and Information Science program, has been selected as the 2009 winner of the RUSA Business Reference and Services Section Gale Cengage Learning Student Travel Award. Albarillo was selected for his assistantship with the Shider College of Business and his internship with the Hawaii Business Research Library....

Wharton School Fellowship winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/pl>]

awharton.cfm]

PLA has awarded Brian A. Bannon, chief of branches for San Francisco Public Library, a PLA Leadership Fellows scholarship for the Leading Organizational Change program at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. The Leadership Fellows program offers PLA members who are public library managers a chance to attend executive leadership training at some of the best universities in the United States....

LLAMA seeks Best of Show entries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/llamabestofshow.cfm>]

Exhibit your library public relations masterpieces by entering LLAMA's annual Best of Show awards competition. Sponsored by the Swap and Shop Committee of the LLAMA Public Relations and Marketing Section, the competition recognizes the very best in public relations materials produced by libraries in the 2008 calendar year. Entries (PDF file

[http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/llama/bos_entryform_09%20for.pdf]) must be postmarked no later than April 17....

Naomi Klein wins first Warwick Prize

[http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/prizeforwriting/news/winner]

The first £50,000 Warwick Prize for Writing went to Canadian journalist Naomi Klein on February 24 for her book *The Shock Doctrine: The Rise of Disaster Capitalism*. The new prize, awarded by the University of Warwick, stands out as an international crossdisciplinary biennial award open to any genre or form of writing. This year's prize theme of "complexity" was interpreted differently by each writer and ranged from music criticism and scientific theory to Spanish fiction....

Warwick Prize

2009 PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction

[<http://artsbeat.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/02/26/post-911-novel-netherlands-wins-penfaulkner-award/>]

Joseph O'Neill's novel *Netherland* was named the winner February 25 of the 2009 PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction by the PEN/Faulkner Foundation. The novel is about a Dutch-born equities analyst, his British wife, and their son, who live in New York during the September 11 terrorist attacks and their aftermath. The award comes with a prize of \$15,000 and will be given to O'Neill at a ceremony on May 9....

New York Times, Feb. 26

Seen Online

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[http://ocs.zgk.de/mdsocs/mod_movies_archiv/movie/archiv0303/ocs_ausgabe/ks]
ta]City archives in Köln collapse

[<http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,,4072655,00.html>]

Eyewitnesses drew comparisons

[<http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,,4070603,00.html>] with an earthquake and the September 11 terrorist attacks after the city archives building in Köln, Germany, suddenly fell apart in about 30 seconds around 2 p.m.

on March 3. City officials say two persons are still missing and presumed dead. Eberhard Illner, a former city archivist, said the collapse [<http://www.spiegel.de/international/germany/0,1518,611311,00.html>] was a “catastrophe, not just for the city of Köln but for the history of Europe.” Volunteers have already pulled close to 9,000 documents out of the basement and offices of employees, but many of the repository’s 65,000 invaluable holdings, some dating as far back as the 10th century, may be lost forever. Officials believe the collapse may be related to the construction [<http://www.ksta.de/html/artikel/1236027626596.shtml>] of an adjacent subway line....
Deutsche Welle, Mar. 3–4; Der Spiegel, Mar. 4; Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Mar. 4; KSTA-TV, Mar. 4

Hard economic times a boon for libraries

[<http://www.cnn.com/2009/US/02/28/recession.libraries/index.html>]
Rebecca Hodges, who has been unemployed for a year, sat down at a computer in a public library in New York. Hodges is not an avid reader, but she said going to the library is a way to look up job openings and use the internet for free. In times of recession, people take advantage of free services, and going to the library is among the most popular. In the past year, libraries across the country have seen dramatic increases in the use of their services....
CNN, Feb. 28

The library as financial center

[<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=101268021>]
A number of libraries around the country are getting grants to train librarians and set up programs to teach people about investing through a collaboration [<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/january2009/finra.cfm>] between FINRA and ALA. John Gannon, president of the FINRA investor education foundation, said his organization turned to libraries because libraries have the ability to reach large numbers of people who may need help with their money....
NPR Weekend Edition, Feb. 28

Big challenges for new Seattle librarian

[http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/402132_librarian05.html]
Seattle’s new city librarian, Susan Hildreth, has been on the job only a few days, but she is clearly in her element among the book stacks, computer screens, and people who make up the Seattle Public Library. She will be challenged to keep programs, staff, and library hours stable just as the city is hit with deep budget cuts. The city general fund is expected to be down \$30 million when revised revenue projections are reported later this month....
Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Mar. 4

21st-century skills under fire

[http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2009/03/04/23pushback_ep.h28.html]
(subscription required)
The phrase “21st-century skills” is everywhere in education policy discussions these days, from faculty lounges to the highest echelons of the U.S. education system. Broadly speaking, it refers to a push for schools to teach critical-thinking, analytical, and technology

skills in addition to the “soft skills” of creativity, collaboration, and communication. But now a group of researchers, historians, and policymakers from across the political spectrum are raising a red flag about the agenda as embodied by the Tucson, Arizona-based Partnership for 21st Century Skills, its leading advocacy group....

Education Week, Mar. 2

Harvard College Library to consolidate

[<http://www.thecrimson.com/article.aspx?ref=526744>]

In an attempt to reduce its budget for next year by \$12 million, Harvard College Library—which manages the circulation of over 11 million items—will shuffle personnel to streamline its services and will likely be unable to avoid layoffs this spring. For now, the move will require the displacement of 17 workers in the Widener serial services division to a facility currently occupied by HCL’s technical services unit....

Harvard Crimson, Feb. 24

UNC’s Wilson Library in major need of a retrofitting

[http://www.newsobserver.com/news/higher_education/story/1428033.html]

The University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill’s Wilson Library, home to some of the state’s oldest records, is stuck in state-mandated paralysis. Until a sprinkler system is installed and two new exterior stairwells are added, at least 60% of the 300,000-square-foot library’s usable space is essentially off-limits for any use other than storage. That means no offices, no staff work spaces, and no people allowed until the university can find \$10–\$12 million to start the retrofitting. But the state is slashing funding to universities and the project isn’t at the top of the campus construction priority list....

Raleigh (N.C.) News and Observer, Mar. 4

[<http://everythinglubbock.com/content/fulltext/?cid=27151>] Rampant mold reported at Lubbock branch

[http://www.lubbockonline.com/stories/022509/loc_398299593.shtml]

A hodgepodge of molds that flourished in Lubbock (Tex.) Public Library’s busiest branch may leave the building beyond repair.

[http://www.lubbockonline.com/stories/021909/loc_395654316.shtml] Mold greeted investigators everywhere they looked in the Godeke branch in mid-February, and signs of further infestation peeked out from where they couldn’t, according to a report released February 24. City officials closed the branch January 28 to remove materials and prepare for an extensive mold inspection, which found that cracks in the building’s exterior walls and roof had allowed water to seep in....

Lubbock (Tex.) Avalanche-Journal, Feb. 19, 25; KLBK-TV, Lubbock, Feb. 6

Task force finds multiple problems in Chattanooga

[<http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/2009/feb/22/chattanooga-funding-control-top-list-priorities-li/>]

Officials say revitalizing the Chattanooga–Hamilton County (Tenn.) Bicentennial Library is a long-term and desperately needed goal, but there’s one snag—no money. The February 16 report (PDF file [http://media.timesfreepress.com/docs/2009/02/Library_report.pdf]) of a task force commissioned by Mayor Ron Littlefield said that funding has

not kept pace with the library's needs and that a lack of clear governance, a cloudy set of goals, and fuzzy relationships with the public and business sector have led to a deterioration in the system's quality....

Chattanooga (Tenn.) Times Free Press, Feb. 22

Oversized crowd postpones West Bend complaint hearing

[http://www.gmtoday.com/news/local_stories/2009/March_09/03042009_02.asp]

An overflow crowd forced the West Bend (Wis.) Community Memorial Library board to cancel its March 3 meeting called to discuss a complaint filed by Ginny and Jim Maziarka about the appropriateness of gay materials in the library. Teens and adults had hoped to offer their opinions on the subject, but the numbers exceeded the 265-seat fire-code capacity of the City Hall council chambers. The Maziarkas consider two books in particular, *The Perks of Being A Wallflower* and *The Geography Club*, inappropriate for the YA literature section....

Greater Milwaukee Today, Mar. 4

in schools [<http://www.ledger-enquirer.com/169/story/634617.html>]

The Muscogee County (Ga.) School District's media committee met February 25 and decided that *My Brother Sam Is Dead* by James Lincoln Collier and Christopher Collier could remain on school library shelves. Although complainant Shirley Waller was in the audience, she didn't realize she was allowed to speak. Now, after hearing the opinions of other parents, she is pushing for parental approval of certain titles rather than a ban....

Columbus (Ga.) Ledger-Enquirer, Mar. 1

[http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/local/baltimore_county/bal-goucher-professor0226,0,2117146.story]
Suspended professor allowed to use college library [http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/local/baltimore_county/bal-goucher-professor0226,0,2117146.story]

A visiting French professor at Goucher College in Towson, Maryland, who was barred from campus in December after officials learned of his genocide indictment in Rwanda will be allowed to use the school's library. Goucher President Sanford J. Ungar made the decision after receiving a petition signed by members of the campus community seeking to let Leopold Munyakazi use the library. Munyakazi denies allegations [http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/local/baltimore_county/bal-md.goucher03feb03,0,5685904.story] that he revealed hiding spots of ethnic Tutsis who were targeted by machete-wielding Hutu militias in the 1994 genocide....

Baltimore Sun, Feb. 3, 26

Patrons oppose closing St. Paul branch

[http://www.twincities.com/ci_11778081]

St. Paul (Minn.) Public Library's Hamline Midway branch, the third-least-visited of the city's 13 libraries, is potentially on the chopping block. Library Director Melanie Huggins recommended shuttering Hamline, reducing library hours everywhere, and slashing the system's materials budget after Mayor Chris Coleman requested that all city departments come up with ways to cut their 2009 budgets by 14%. Red pants, pullovers, shirts, scarves, and bright-red "Save Our Library" buttons speckled the crowd of at least 270 that showed up February 24 for the second of Coleman's public meetings. Watch the video

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ZEtPV8zBHg>] (7:16)....
St. Paul (Minn.) Pioneer Press, Feb. 24

Historical libraries cutting hours, staffing

Budget constraints have forced at least three historical libraries to close temporarily or otherwise limit hours open to the public. The New Jersey Historical Society in Newark closed [<http://www.nj.com/news/ledger/jersey/index.ssf?/base/news-12/123458914416420.xml&coll=1>] its library indefinitely February 17, furloughing staff for an undetermined period; the research library will now be open only by appointment. On March 4, the Arizona State Library's Polly Rosenbaum Archives and History Building reading and meeting rooms closed temporarily [<http://www.lib.az.us/archives/>] due to budget reductions. [<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/local/articles/2009/03/04/20090304archives0304.html>] And the Oregon Historical Library in Portland closed temporarily [<http://www.ohs.org/research/library/index.cfm>] from February 28 to March 13, with limited access thereafter....
Newark (N.J.) Star-Ledger, Feb. 14; Arizona State Library; Phoenix Arizona Republic, Mar. 4; Oregon Historical Society

Historical society recovers after flood damage

[<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2009/03/02/BAA1161R8N.DTL>]
The California Historical Society in San Francisco reopened in February after a car hit a fire hydrant December 19, causing a flood that damaged the building and more than 1,500 historic books. The library called on Belfor Property Restoration in Fort Worth, Texas, to conserve some 670 soggy books dating back to the 1920s. Repair to the building has been completed, but some of the books won't be reshelfed until the end of March....
San Francisco Chronicle, Mar. 2

Minor damage after National Library of Scotland flood

[<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/scotland/article5818301.ece>]
Some 200 books were seriously damaged in the National Library of Scotland in Edinburgh after the failure of a sprinkler pipe on the top story caused 5,000 liters of water to run through all 12 floors. The potentially catastrophic incident late on the evening of February 26 forced 30 library staff to work through the night to clear standing water and spend the day beginning the task of drying out the affected volumes. An additional 4,000 bound volumes and 500–600 manuscript volumes and boxes were affected and were moved for drying....
The Times (U.K.), Feb. 28; National Library of Scotland, Mar. 2

Court dismisses hostage lawsuit against Libya

[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/02/26/AR2009022602470.html>]
A federal court has dismissed a lawsuit against Libya brought by the estate of American librarian Peter Kilburn, who was kidnapped, held hostage, and killed in retaliation for a U.S. raid on the country in 1986. Kilburn's relatives and the United States asked the court to dismiss the case so the family can seek compensation from a \$1.8-billion fund to compensate victims of Libyan-linked terror attacks. Kilburn was a librarian at the American University in Beirut when he was abducted from

his apartment in December 1984....
Associated Press, Feb. 26

[Go back to the Top \[#top\]](#)

Tech Talk

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Scriblio 2.7 released [<http://about.scriblio.net/scribbles/category/news/>]
It's been a long time coming, but it's finally time to call
Scriblio 2.7 stable. It's available at the WordPress plugins
repository [<http://wordpress.org/extend/plugins/scriblio/>]. The new
version features an internal data model that supports original cataloging
of books and archive items, has some resemblance to MARC and other
formats, and supports the automatic merging of records from multiple
sources. The new version also has a refactored SQL query architecture,
internal support for representing the collection in a variety of forms,
and better support for automating the relationship between Scriblio and
external ILSs or other systems....

Scriblio Social Library System, Feb. 25

[<http://writingcareer.com/>] 85 tools for freelancers and web workers

[<http://mashable.com/2009/03/03/freelance/>]

Sean P. Aune writes: "Deciding to become a freelance worker can be a
scary proposition. Luckily there are numerous resources out there that
not only help you find more work, but also loads of tools to help you do
your job more efficiently with a professional edge. We've gathered
over 85 tools and job sites for a variety of freelancers and web workers.
While a lot of these items are focused on web design elements such as
photography, programming, and writing, we made sure to include something
for everyone."...

Mashable, Mar. 3

Microsoft introduces browser-based OS

[http://www.readwriteweb.com/archives/introducing_microsofts_gazelle.php]

Lidija Davis writes: "On February 19, Microsoft Research

[<http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/>] released an interesting paper (PDF
file [<http://research.microsoft.com/pubs/79655/gazelle.pdf>]) about a web
browser it calls Gazelle, which is constructed in such a way to act like
an operating system. The idea behind Gazelle is to create a browser that
is more secure for the now typical dynamic pages we find on the web.
According to Microsoft, Gazelle is different from existing browsers, as
no existing browsers, including new architectures, have a multiprincipal
operating system constructed in such a way that provides the
browser-based OS exclusive control to manage the protection of all system
resources....

ReadWriteWeb, Feb. 22

Top 10 tools for your own domain

[<http://lifehacker.com/5161867/top-10-tools-for-your-blog-or-web-site>]

Kevin Purdy writes: "Having your own hosted web domain has never
been cheaper, or easier, with the vast array of free resources out there.

Here are our 10 favorite tools to help anyone launch and maintain their

internet presence.”...
Lifehacker, Feb. 28

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4pYiNyGKB84>]Computer hardware in plain English [<http://www.commoncraft.com/computer-hardware>]
Sachi and Lee Lefever of Commoncraft have put together a video explanation (3:13) of the basic parts of computers and what they do to make computers work. The focus is on the hard drive, RAM, and processor, and how computer parts are like rooms in your house....
Computercraft, Feb. 25

Publishing

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Amazon backpedals on Kindle 2 text-to-speech feature
[http://news.cnet.com/8301-1023_3-10184765-93.html]
Following the debut of the Kindle 2, the 9,000-member Authors Guild claimed [<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/02/25/opinion/25blount.html>] the gadget’s text-to-speech feature created a derivative work and violated copyright—despite endorsements by authors Wil Wheaton, [<http://wilwheaton.typepad.com/wwdnbackup/2009/02/wil-wheaton-vs-text-2-speech.html>] Neil Gaiman, [<http://journal.neilgaiman.com/2009/02/quick-argument-summary.html>] and John Scalzi. [<http://whatever.scalzi.com/2009/02/27/the-panic-about-kindles-text-to-speech-still-silly/>] Guild Executive Director Paul Aiken said many publishers were also angered over the speech function, adding that Amazon never consulted beforehand with either of those groups. Amazon responded February 27 by handing publishers the ability to disable the feature on any title they choose....
Cnet News, Mar. 1; New York Times, Feb. 24; WWdN: In Exile, Feb. 27; Neil Gaiman’s Journal, Feb. 11; Whatever, Feb. 27

Fear the Kindle [<http://www.slate.com/id/2212320/>]
Farhad Manjoo writes: “If the Kindle succeeds on its current terms, and all signs suggest it’ll be a blockbuster, Amazon will make a bundle. But everyone else with a stake in a vibrant book industry—authors, publishers, libraries, chain bookstores, indie bookstores, and readers—stands to lose out. In exchange for its convenience, the Kindle locks you down with more rules than the Army Field Manual.”...
Slate, Feb. 26

It’s still winter!
[<http://bookends.booklistonline.com/2009/03/01/its-still-winter/>]
Cindy Dobrez and Lynn Rutan write: “Despite the fact that we are yearning for spring, it is still winter here in Michigan. It is only 10 degrees and we still have piles of snow on the ground. The only thing that really helps is to grab a cup of hot coffee, pile on the blankets, and nestle in with a really good shivery book. We each have one to suggest.”...
Bookends, Mar. 1

The scan-on-demand movement

[<http://acrlog.org/2009/02/25/local-food-for-thought-movement/>]

Barbara Fister writes: “Penn

[<http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA6639703.html>] is the latest university to offer scan-on-demand with quality print output. Emory [http://digital.library.emory.edu/Mass_Digital_Publications] uses the same Kirtas machine to offer a curated collection of books. Michigan [<http://www.lib.umich.edu/ebm/>] has an Espresso machine standing by to instantly print copies. Cornell [<http://bookstore.library.cornell.edu/>] sells thousands of scanned books printed on demand through Amazon’s POD company. Basically, this effort is an interlibrary loan of nonreturnables that happen to be book-sized and often go direct to the patron. It’s a terrific development. But . . . you knew there’d be a but, didn’t you?”...

ACRLog, Feb. 25; Library Journal, Feb. 25

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[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

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Actions & Answers

=====

Index: Too much, too late

[<http://www.al.ala.org/insidescoop/2009/03/03/lj-index-too-much-too-late/>]

American Libraries Editor in Chief Leonard Kniffel writes: “Back in January 1999, AL published the first installment of Tom Hennen’s HAPLR Index, ranking America’s public libraries using statistics collected by the Federal-State Cooperative System. Now, 10 years later, here comes Library Journal with the ‘LJ Index of Public Library Service,’ a new ranking system touted as ‘Better Than Hennen.’ This morning I talked with Hennen, who said he was ‘perplexed’ by many of the claims that Keith Lance and Ray Lyons make for the superiority of their system.”...

AL Inside Scoop, Mar. 3

How to give a talk while people are twittering

[<http://pistachioconsulting.com/twitter-presentations/>]

Olivia Mitchell writes: “People used to whisper to each other or pass hand-scribbled notes during presentations. Now these notes are going digital on Twitter or via conference-provided chat rooms. As a presenter, the idea of presenting while people are talking about you is disconcerting. But to balance that, there are huge benefits to the individual members of the audience and to the overall output of a conference or meeting.”...

Pistachio, Feb. 23

If Gutenberg could tweet [<http://historicaltweets.com/>]

Most people think Twitter was created in 2006. These are same people who think Richard Gere created Buddhism in the 1990s, just before Madonna created yoga. Folks, like the sun, and the moon, and the stars, Twitter

has always been. This site proves it beyond a shadow of a doubt. Now, with Historical Tweets, history's most amazing men and women can be fully understood, a mere 140 characters at a time....

Historical Tweets

To MLIS or not to MLIS? [http://lisjobs.com/career_trends/?p=527]

Genevieve Williams writes: "What's an MLIS worth? According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, about \$24,000—when you compare the salaries of a master's degreed librarian and a paraprofessional. When considering whether to earn an MLIS, pay is just one variable. You also need to consider the transferability of the skillset, the value of professional training versus learning on the job, what librarians and other info pros are asked to do that the MLIS doesn't cover, other options for professional training beyond the MLIS, and the value of the MLIS as a professional credential."...

Info Career Trends, Mar. 2

OCLC Expert Community Experiment

[<http://www.oclc.org/news/briefs/brief259.htm>]

In response to requests from the cataloging community, OCLC has introduced the Expert Community Experiment

[<http://www.oclc.org/worldcat/catalog/quality/expert/default.htm>], which enables OCLC members to make more changes to WorldCat records. During the experiment, OCLC libraries with full-level cataloging authorizations will have the ability to improve and upgrade WorldCat master bibliographic records. The additional capabilities provided by the experiment are an expansion of those that have been available through various database enrichment programs since 1991....

OCLC, Feb. 26

Advancing global internet freedom

[<http://blogs.reuters.com/great-debate/2009/03/03/advancing-global-internet-freedom/>]

Leslie Harris writes: "In the wake of troubling reports as recently as last year that Western companies were assisting China with internet censorship, governments around the world seemed poised to regulate the conduct of internet companies. Lawmakers appear to have stepped back, but the challenges of advancing global internet freedom remain. The Global Online Freedom Act of 2007

[http://thomas.loc.gov/home/gpoxmlc110/h275_ih.xml] would have made it a crime for internet companies to turn over personal information to governments in cases where that information could be used to punish dissent. The bill produced a firestorm of controversy....

The Great Debate, Mar. 3

Share a story, shape a future

[<http://shareastory-shapeafuture.blogspot.com/2009/02/share-story-shape-future-blog-tour-for.html>]

"Share a story—shape a future" is an ensemble effort by bloggers to celebrate reading and encourage each other to reach beyond ourselves and do it in a way that we are neither judging nor instructing others. The event begins March 9 and lasts one week. Each day a group of bloggers will share ideas around a specific theme. There are a number of book giveaways and free downloads that will be announced by the various hosts.

Mary Burkey of Audiobooker

[<http://audiobooker.booklistonline.com/2009/02/28/share-a-story-shape-a-future/>] is taking part....

Share a Story—Shape a Future, Feb. 24; Audiobooker, Feb. 28

How to talk about books

[<http://bookgroupbuzz.booklistonline.com/2009/02/27/book-group-grace-how-to-talk-about-books-pt1/>]

Neil Hollands writes: “First attempts at book group discussion can be awkward. When I was first getting started, I’d make comments that I thought were insightful, but the group would react as if I’d made armpit noises at the Mozart society or talked about my last bout with Montezuma’s revenge at high tea with the Queen. My posts for the next few weeks will provide a few hints to help you show grace under book group pressure.”...

Book Group Buzz, Feb. 27

Prepare for MayDay

[<http://www.heritagepreservation.org/PROGRAMS/TFlessons/MayDayAnnc.html>]

Libraries, museums, archives, and arts and historic-preservation organizations across the nation are setting aside May 1 to participate in MayDay, a national effort to prepare for disasters. Sponsored by Heritage Preservation and other members of the Heritage Emergency National Task Force, MayDay encourages organizations to take one simple step to protect the art, artifacts, records, and historic sites they hold in trust....

Heritage Perservation

Surprising special collections

[<http://www.smithsonianmag.com/arts-culture/Libraries-Surprising-Special-Collections.html>]

Kristin Ohlson writes: “I walk through an arched marble doorway and into one of the loveliest rooms I’ve seen anywhere. Designed to look like a Renaissance Library, the Cleveland Public Library’s John Griswold White Reading Room [<http://www.cpl.org/010012/chess/>] offers sweeping views of Lake Erie and downtown Cleveland, as well as a dazzling abundance of venerable books and objects. A lawyer and scholar who died in 1928, White was one of the library’s greatest benefactors and his prodigious collections fill this room.”...

Smithsonian, Mar. 1

Surveillance self-defense [<https://ssd.eff.org/>]

The Electronic Frontier Foundation has created a Surveillance Self-Defense website to educate the American public about the law and technology of government surveillance in the United States, providing the information and tools necessary to evaluate the threat of surveillance and take appropriate steps to defend against it. What can the government legally do to spy on your computer data and communications? And what can you legally do to protect yourself against such spying?...

Electronic Frontier Foundation

NISO open teleconferences [<http://www.niso.org/news/events/2009/>]

Join the National Information Standards Organization on free conference calls throughout the year to learn about new projects and to provide the organization with feedback on areas where NISO ought to be engaged.

Teleconferences are held 3–4 p.m. Eastern time on the second Monday of each month (except July and September). To join, simply dial (877) 375-2160 and enter the code 17800743....

National Information Standards Organization

British library users increasingly go online

[http://www.mla.gov.uk/news/press/releases/2009/library_online_resources]

More people than ever in the United Kingdom are accessing library services online, with a 20% rise recorded, according to figures published March 3 by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy. However, with book borrowing and library visitors slightly down over last year, the Museums, Libraries, and Archives Council said there was no room for complacency and urged libraries to deliver a high-quality core service that provides a wide range of books for loan, comprehensive reference sources, and advice from staff....

Museums, Libraries, and Archives Council, Mar. 3

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vZvFwJR5aTc>] Why South Carolinians love the library [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vZvFwJR5aTc>]

Visitors to the 13th Annual South Carolina Book Festival stopped by the State Library's exhibit booth and gave reasons why they love their libraries in this video (2:42). South Carolina State Library Communications Director Curtis R. Rogers set up a videocamera at the festival, held February 27 through March 1 at the Columbia Convention Center....

YouTube, Mar. 1

Go back to the Top [#top]

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[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/index.cfm>]

ALA Annual Conference,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/faq.cfm>]

Chicago, July 9–15. The Early Bird registration

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/registration.cfm>] deadline is March 6.

[<http://bookends.booklistonline.com/>]

Booklist Online's newest blog is Bookends.

[<http://bookends.booklistonline.com/>] Cindy Dobrez and Lynn Rutan, middle-school librarians and longtime Booklist reviewers, prove that two heads are better than one when it comes to discussing YA and children's books. NEW! From Booklist Online.

In this issue
March 2009

[<http://site.ebrary.com/lib/ala>]

Libraries and civic engagement

The return of Salinas Public Library

Amalgamating for advocacy

Midwinter Meeting conversations

The 2009 National Library Legislative Day

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/wo/washevents/nlld/nlld2009.cfm>]
will be held May 11 and 12 at the Liaison Hotel in Washington, D.C. A new
administration and political climate in the House and Senate mean a
critical and exciting time for librarians to get their message out to
Congress. ALA has reserved a block of rooms, but the reservations always
go quickly; be sure to register

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/wo/washevents/nlld/registrationa/registration.cfm>] with your state coordinator

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/wo/washevents/nlld/2009%20NLLD%20StCoordLis1.pdf>] by April 15.

Career Leads from

[<http://joblist.ala.org/>]

Copyright and Scholarly Communication Librarian,

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=12761>] University of Texas–Pan American,

Edinburg. Primary responsibilities include serving as the university
library's advisor for copyright and intellectual property issues,
working as a liaison with faculty members and the Copyright Clearance
Center, assisting with the formation of the UTPA scholarly communication
database, creating and maintaining the UTPA library website for copyright
issues, assisting faculty in obtaining copyrights for materials stored in
online classes or in the library, and providing updated copyright
information as needed....

@ More jobs [<http://joblist.ala.org/>]...

Digital Library of the Week

[<http://205.247.101.31/u/?nazwwii,246>]

The European Library [<http://theeuropeanlibrary.org>] offers free access to the resources of the 48 national libraries of Europe in 20 languages. Currently, the European Library gives access to 150 million items across Europe. The amount of referenced digital collections is constantly increasing. The library provides a vast virtual collection of material from all disciplines and offers visitors simple access to European cultural resources. The European Library is a noncommercial organization available to anyone around the world seeking books, maps, photographs, music, videos, and other materials. Participating institutions are all members of the Conference of European National Librarians (CENL), a foundation aiming at increasing and reinforcing the role of national libraries in Europe.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this AL Direct feature? Tell us about it. [<mailto:aldirect@ala.org>] Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the I Love Libraries [<http://www.ilovelibraries.ala.org/diglibweekly/>] site.

Public Perception How the World Sees Us

“Maybe I’m a boring guy, but I love libraries. . . . I can spend 12 hours in the library if I’m looking for something in particular. It’s kind of like hunting a fugitive through the pages of history. I really enjoy it. Luckily in the case of the [1900 Galveston hurricane], there was a lot of stuff to mine. In Galveston, there is the Rosenberg Library [<http://www.rosenberg-library.org/default.htm>] which has a terrific storm archive: full of personal accounts, full of little bits and details, full of photographs—all of which kind of helped me piece together the saga of the storm.”

—Erik Larson, author of *Isaac’s Storm: A Man, a Time, and the Deadliest Hurricane in History* (Crown, 1999), an account of the 1900 Galveston hurricane, in an interview on the Books on Tape audiobook version.

[<http://www.twitter.com/amlibraries>]

AL on Twitter? Follow American Libraries news stories, videos, and blog posts on Twitter. [<http://www.twitter.com/amlibraries>]

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. What exactly is the green library movement? I hear the term “green” being used a lot, but how does it apply to libraries?

A. The green library movement is a growing group of libraries, librarians, institutions, and municipalities that are committed to reducing their environmental impact.

[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Environmental_Concerns]

Most of the focus of going green has been on building construction and renovation, but it is also important to consider the materials that are used inside these buildings, such as photocopiers, computers, and printed materials. ALA has two groups that address how libraries can become more environmentally friendly: the International Round Table’s International Sustainable Library Development Interest Group

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/irrt/irrtcommittees/isld/isld.cfm>]

which serves as a clearinghouse of sustainable community-based library projects in developing areas of the world; and the Social Responsibilities Round Table’s Task Force on the Environment, [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/srrt/tfoe/taskforceenvironment.cfm>]

which was created in 1989 to promote awareness for environmental issues. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki

[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Green_Library_Movement].

@ The ALA Librarian [<mailto:AskTheLibrarian@ala.org>] welcomes your questions.

[<http://www.alatechsource.org/blog/2009/02/implementing-second-life-ideas-challenges-and-innovations.html>]

In Implementing Second Life: Ideas, Challenges, and Innovations,

[<http://www.alatechsource.org/blog/2009/02/implementing-second-life-ideas-challenges-and-innovations.html>]

the February issue of ALA’s Library Technology Reports, virtual worlds virtuoso Joe Sanchez looks at the history of virtual worlds and how educators have used them as tools for learning in the 21st century. Sanchez extensively and objectively explores the pros and cons of using Second Life for both educators and librarians, and a chapter guest-authored by LIS student Jane Stimpson examines several examples of public libraries that have established a Second Life presence.

Calendar

Mar. 6:

Federal and Armed Forces Round Table,

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/faflrt/initiatives/index.cfm>] Seminar

on Libraries in Tough Economic Times, Masur Auditorium, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland.

Mar. 8:

International Women’s Day.

[<http://www.internationalwomensday.com/about.asp>]

Mar. 18:

Data Movement and Management.

[<http://www.niso.org/news/events/2009/datawebinar09>] Webinar offered by the National Information Standards Organization.

Mar. 22–24:

Association of Information and Dissemination Centers,

[<http://www.asidic.org/page/32-spring-2009>] Spring Meeting, Tampa Bay Grand Hyatt, Tampa, Florida. “Innovation in a Time of Great Change.”

Apr. 6 –9:

European Conference on Information Retrieval,

[<http://ecir09.irit.fr/access.php?p=index>] Centre de congrès Pierre Baudis, Toulouse, France.

Apr. 14–15:

Records Administration Conference West and E-Records Forum,

[<http://www.archives.gov/southwest/agencies/records-mgmt/forum-announcement.html>] Omni Hotel, Austin, Texas.

Apr. 15:

Women’s National Book Association, New York City Chapter,

[<http://www.wnba-nyc.org/mc/community/eventdetails.do?eventId=193873&orgId=wnbanc>] panel discussion on “Food Books for Every Booklover’s Palate,” New York Public Library Jefferson Market Branch.

Apr. 19–25:

Week of the Young Child. [<http://www.naeyc.org/about/woyc/>]

Apr. 24–25:

Second Annual Celebration of Latino Children’s Literature,

[<http://www.ed.sc.edu/latinoconf/>] Moore School of Business, University of South Carolina, Columbia.

Apr. 26–29:

Academic Library Advancement and Development Network,

[<http://www.unl.edu/aladn09/>] Annual Conference, The Williamsburg Lodge at Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia. “Revolutionary Ideas in Library Advancement.”

Apr. 27–29:

International Conference on Information Technology,

[<http://www.itng.info/>] The Orleans Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada. “New Generations.”

May 1:

Art of Storytelling Workshop, [<http://www.mdpls.org/aos/aosHome.asp>]

Miami-Dade Public Library System Main Library, Miami, Florida.

May 18–22: Summer Institute for Humanities Data Curation,

[<http://cirss.lis.uiuc.edu/CollMeta/dcep/SummerInstituteHumanities.htm>]

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Apply by March 7.

May 27–30:

Global Green International Trade Show,

[<http://www.sipglobal.org/tradeshow/MainPage.php?currentPage=Welcome.html>]

Ontario (Calif.) Convention Center. Programs, workshops, and seminars on green topics.

June 14–17:

Special Libraries Association,

[<http://www.sla.org/content/Events/conference/ac2009/index.cfm>] Annual

Conference, Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C.

June 20–25:

Association of Seventh-Day Adventist Librarians,

[<http://www.asdal.org/conf/index.html>] Annual Conference, Andrews

University, Berrien Springs, Michigan.

Oct. 4–8:

31st National Media Market, [<http://www.nmm.net/>] Embassy Suites and Griffin Gate Marriott Resort, Lexington, Kentucky. For four days, 55 of the nation's top-quality educational media producers and distributors offer on-demand previews of new releases, products, and services.

Oct. 19–22:

Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums, [<http://tribalconference.org/>]

Annual Conference, Red Lion on the River, Portland, Oregon.

“Streams of Language, Memories, and Lifeways.”

Nov. 6:

Brick and Click Libraries, [<http://brickandclick.org/>] Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville.

@ More [<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/calendar/calendar.cfm>]...

Contact Us

American Libraries Direct

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Contents

[U.S. & World News](#)
[ALA News](#)
[AL Focus](#)
[Booklist Online](#)
[Division News](#)
[Awards](#)
[Seen Online](#)
[Tech Talk](#)
[Publishing](#)
[Actions & Answers](#)
[Calendar](#)



SCHOOLROOMS
A new learning portal for K-12

- ✓ Teacher-selected Content
- ✓ 71 Subjects—Aligned to Curriculum
- ✓ 3 Million High-quality Sites Searchable



U.S. & World News

[It's pink-slip season for California school librarians](#)

In what seems to have become an annual spring rite in the Golden State, school boards throughout California have been issuing layoff notices to school library media specialists, as well as other educators and support staff, to ensure that the districts meet the March 15 notification deadline mandated by the state education code. With an \$8.4-billion drop in state support to K-12 schools and higher education through June 30, 2010, the California Teachers Association [estimated](#) in early March that some 17,800 preliminary layoff notices would be issued to its members; 10,000 were sent in 2008....

American Libraries Online, Mar. 11

[Chattanooga library report calls for major reforms](#)

The Chattanooga-Hamilton County (Tenn.) Bicentennial Library was slammed in a consultants' report ([PDF file](#)) that said the library "lacks a clear vision for the future," is underfunded in both its operating and capital budgets, has a problematic governance structure, has buildings that are unattractive and inadequate, and uses outdated technology. Consultants June Garcia and Susan Kent called the governance and funding structure of the library "problematic and confusing," and faulted the library for not having a fundraising program or a strategic plan....

American Libraries Online, Mar. 9



[ALA Annual Conference.](#)

Chicago, July 9-15. Plan your trip now by consulting the **Preliminary Conference Program**, now available online ([PDF file](#)).



Enriching and supplementing storytelling programs with fingerplays, flannelboards, and other props will be a cinch thanks to [Storytime Magic](#), a generous sampling of 400 art and craft ideas, songs, and action rhymes by

ALA News

[Polls open March 17 for ALA election](#)

ALA is holding its annual election for president, treasurer, and members-at-large for ALA Council. Polls open March 17 and close at 11:59 p.m. Central Time, April 24. Broadcast emails, announcing polls' opening and giving member number, pass code, and instructions, will be sent beginning March 17, with the last emails sent by 9 a.m., March 19.



If you have not received your ballot by March 20, contact membership@ala.org....

New season of Step Up to the Plate @ your library

ALA and the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum have teamed up for Season Four of Step Up to the Plate @ your library, beginning National Library Week, April 12–18. This national program brings together two American classics—libraries and baseball—to promote information literacy and the library as an essential information resource. Visit the [website](#) to register for free promotional tools that include program logos in both English and Spanish and a toolkit that includes sample press materials and programming ideas....



2009 Diversity and Outreach Fair

ALA invites members from all types of libraries to participate in the Diversity and Outreach Fair, 3–5 p.m., July 11, during ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The fair will center on services to older adults. Sponsored by DEMCO, the fair is organized by the Office for Literacy and Outreach Services as a way to celebrate examples of diversity in American libraries. Selected applicants will share their diversity initiatives in face-to-face presentations with conferees through poster sessions and conversations....

Traveling exhibit connects Harry Potter, real-world sciences

The ALA Public Programs Office, in cooperation with the National Library of Medicine, announces a new small-format traveling exhibition for libraries: "[Harry Potter's World: Renaissance Science, Magic, and Medicine](#)." Public, academic, and medical libraries may apply to host the banner exhibition by downloading an [application](#), due at ALA by May 1....



Certified Public Library Administrator Program open

Public library managers are invited to apply for the Certified Public Library Administrator Program. Candidates will learn about budgeting, personnel, building management, and grantwriting—the skills a manager needs in the 21st century. The [application](#) deadline is March 20....

Mayo to present 2009 Coleman Lecture

Kathleen Mayo, head of outreach services for the Lee County (Fla.) Library System, will present the 2009 Dr. Jean E. Coleman Outreach Lecture for the Office for Literacy and Outreach Services July 13 at ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Her lecture, "The Challenges and Opportunities of Serving America's Elders," will look at the American population as it ages and how libraries are responding to the reality of lifelong learning....

Planning for Annual Conference

ALA Librarian Karen Muller writes: "The March issue of *American Libraries* is shrink-wrapped with the preliminary program ([PDF file](#)) for the [2009 ALA Annual Conference](#). In between reference calls and staff questions, I've been paging through it. On the inside back cover

Kathy MacMillan and Christine Kirker. **NEW!**
From ALA Editions.

In this issue March 2009



Libraries and civic engagement

The return of Salinas Public Library

Amalgamating for advocacy

Midwinter Meeting conversations

Career Leads from

ALA JobLIST

U.S. Government Information and Law Librarian. The University of California, Santa Barbara, is seeking candidates for a temporary, two-year position. The successful candidate must be innovative, creative, energetic, self-motivated, and service-oriented. The librarian has responsibility for reference and research consultation, including electronic reference, teaching in the library's instruction program,

is a short planning calendar—a handy place to note whatever catches my eye *now* so I can see if I can shoehorn in an extra activity. I also looked at the field trips being offered by Camp ALA, which kids always enjoy.”...

ALA Marginalia, Mar. 4

[ALA student-to-staff program](#)

Each year during Annual Conference, the Chapter Relations Office puts together a group of student volunteers from the student chapters to assist ALA staff. To qualify for the [student-to-staff program](#), the student must be a current ALA member and a member of a student chapter, and cannot have previously participated in the program. Each school has its own selection process, and the chosen student's name must be submitted to ALA by the group's faculty adviser. Contact [Don Wood](#) for more information....

ALA Student Member Blog, Mar. 9

[Children's lit in Second Life](#)

From 9:45 a.m. until noon Pacific Time on March 17, the ALA Recruitment Assembly will celebrate “Adventures in Children's Literature: Careers for School, Public, and Academic Librarians” in Second Life. Come join the assembly on [ALA Island](#) and hear from public librarians, school librarians, and even academic librarians whose work involves promoting a love of reading in young people....

AL Focus

[Interview with Ann Brashares](#)

Booklist sat down with YA author Ann Brashares to talk about her new book *3 Willows* and how it compares to her best-selling *Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* series. In this interview (3:41), Brashares opens up about the chances of the new book expanding into a series, how hard it is to let go of beloved characters, and how she likes to imagine her characters' lives at age 4, 14, 40, and beyond....



[Interview with Ingrid Law](#)

Just one day before winning a Newbery Honor Award for her book *Savvy*, author Ingrid Law sat down with *Booklist* and spoke about the origin of the term, how she wanted to write a book about magic without the word “magic,” talking to children about their own secret powers, and how librarians inspire her (3:08). Bonus: Law also gives us a sneak peak of her next book, a *Savvy* sequel....



Booklist

ONLINE

[Featured review: Reference](#)

J. Baird Callicott and Robert Frodeman, eds. *Encyclopedia of Environmental Ethics and Philosophy*. Oct. 2008. 585p.

and collection development and management for United States government information and law. The librarian serves as the liaison to the U.S. Government Printing Office Federal Depository Library Program. Responsible for the development and maintenance of printed and electronic guides to library resources for the two disciplines....

@ [More jobs...](#)

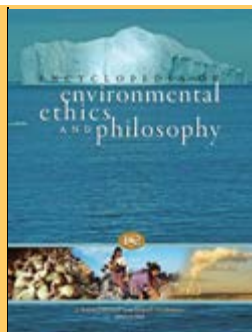
Digital Library of the Week



[Seattle Municipal Archives](#). Seattle's digital-document libraries are a resource for teachers and students of Washington State history. They contain digital representations of primary-source documents on such topics as the Great Seattle Fire of 1889, the 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, unemployment and the WPA, and the World Trade Organization protests. Although the geographic focus is Seattle, the topics reflect events at the state and national levels. Both documents and images are included in the

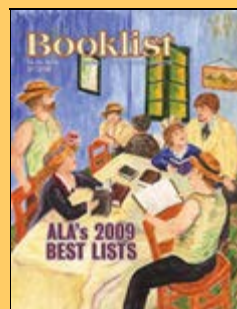
Macmillan, hardcover (978-0-02-866137-7).

It seems fitting that the two volumes in this set start with entries for Edward Abbey and Wes Jackson, men who spoke for appropriate and ethical interaction with nature. Abbey espoused the value of wildness for its own sake, and Jackson continues to work for agriculture that complements natural ecosystems. Here, they are the lead-ins to a wealth of information, both deep and broad. As stated in the introduction, "Environmental philosophy is bursting through conventional disciplinary boundaries," and the encyclopedia reflects this "dedisciplining" by offering a wide range of perspectives. Entries include not only the topics one might expect (*Aquifers, Bhopal, Ecotourism, Sierra Club*) but other subjects, such as religion (*Jainism*) and art (*Hudson River school*). There are also brief biographies of poets (Robinson Jeffers), activists (Vandana Shiva), scientists (Paul Ehrlich), philosophers (Murray Bookchin), and others. The purpose is to provide "succinct accounts of the core values and issues surrounding humanity's relationship to the natural world." The 321 scholarly, accessible, and thought-provoking signed entries are the products of an impressive array of scholars....



In the March 15 issue

It's high time for some good publishing news. The 2009 ALA notable and "best" lists may have only an indirect bearing on publishers' bottom lines, but they certainly say something about the high quality of the books and media published in the last year. It's easy to forget, at a time when economic news is dominating publishing-industry headlines, that there are more good books published every year than any of us has time to read. You'll find an impressive number of those good books—and good audiobooks and videos—in the 11 best lists that begin this issue....



@ Visit [Booklist Online](#) for other reviews and much more....

archives.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it.](#) Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the [Love Libraries](#) site.

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

"I didn't even know we had a library. I wondered if that is something that should be included in the budget."

—Steve Doerhoefer, at a Sharpsburg, Georgia, council meeting, asking about \$2,450 in the town's budget for the volunteer-staffed library's supplies and materials, *Newnan (Ga.) Times-Herald*, Jan. 6.



AL on Twitter? Follow *American Libraries* news stories, videos, and blog posts on [Twitter](#).

Division News

Art Institute president to speak in Chicago

ALCTS will present James Cuno, president and director of the Art Institute of Chicago, as the featured speaker for its President's Program, July 13, at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Cuno's recent book, *Who Owns Antiquity? Museums and the Battle over Our Ancient Heritage*, published by Princeton University Press, will be the subject of his



In the March 2009 issue of *College and Research Libraries News*, Peter Hernon

presentation....

[Teens can vote for the 2010 Teen Tech Week theme](#)

YALSA invites all teens to get out the vote for Teen Tech Week, March 8–14. Teens can vote for the 2010 Teen Tech Week theme (and answer a short [survey](#) about their use of technology) on the YALSA [website](#). They can choose from three potential themes: TMI @ your library; FYI @ your library; and Create, Share, Learn @ your library. The poll will also survey teens on their tech habits, how they use technology at school or in their free time, and the availability of technology at their libraries....

[Library technology unconference](#)

Have you ever been “speed-geeking”? Struck by “lightning-talks”? Join keynoters Joan Frye Williams and John Blyberg at the first-ever [LITACamp](#). “The Everywhere Library: Creating, Communicating, Integrating,” May 7–8, in Dublin, Ohio. Participants determine the topic and format of the sessions on-site, sign up for time slots, and pitch session ideas to all. Registration is accepted online ([PDF file](#)) and onsite. A special housing rate is available until April 10....



[AASL April Learning4Life webinars](#)

April is School Library Media Month. This year, AASL offers a webinar series designed for school library media specialists. The webinars are part of AASL's Learning4Life, an initiative to implement *Standards for the 21st-Century Learner* and *Empowering Learners: Guidelines for School Library Media Programs* (available in mid-April) nationally. The webinars will be held at 4:30 p.m. Central Time on Wednesdays....

[Educational tours during AASL conference](#)

Attendees of the AASL 14th National Conference and Exhibition in Charlotte, North Carolina, November 5–8, are encouraged to sign up early for one of the [educational tours](#) offered Wednesday and Thursday before the conference. Tours include the Biltmore Estate (right), historic homes and neighborhoods of Charlotte, and the NASCAR Valley....



[LLAMA preconferences in Chicago](#)

LLAMA will offer a wide range of topics during seven preconferences at this year's ALA Annual Conference. Preconferences will take place 9 a.m.–5 p.m., July 10. Registration is available through the ALA Annual Conference [website](#). Topics include: An Inside Look at Leadership, Moving Your Library's Collections, Green Library Interiors: Fact and Fiction, and Living the Balanced Scorecard....

[ALCTS: How to present a webinar](#)

ALCTS is committed to creating webinars on emerging issues in technical services areas and practical information. “How to Present a Webinar,” the first in a series of how-tos, will train potential presenters on developing and presenting a webinar. The webinar is presented by Keri Cascio, and will be presented live three times in March....

[ALCTS webinars on institutional repositories](#)

ALCTS is offering three webinars on institutional repositories beginning in April. Based on the successful IR symposium held at the

and Robert E. Dugan discuss [assessment and evaluation](#) and provide useful working definitions of the terms as they relate to measuring student outcomes.

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. I recently lost my position at a community college library and have been looking for other library positions. I haven't been in the job market for some time. What resources are available for finding a new library position?

A. See ALA's [Jobseeking](#) page—which includes a link to ALA's own job postings. You can create an account on ALA's [JobLIST](#) website, which provides not only a search through job postings, but also a [tips and tricks](#) page that offers assistance and advice, including [job hunting strategies](#) and help for [résumés](#) and [cover letters](#). A résumé-critiquing service is one of the [conference workshops](#) set for the ALA Annual Conference on July 9–

ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver, the sessions introduce participants to the IR movement and provide tools for decision-making about implementation and maintenance. Future topics slated for fall 2009 include open access, intellectual property, copyright, consortial implementation, and using the IR as a publishing platform....

[**YALSA seeks editor for quarterly journal**](#)

YALSA is accepting applications for a member editor for its journal, *Young Adult Library Services*, a 2008 APEX Award honoree. The editor ([PDF file](#)) will be responsible for the textual and pictorial content of the quarterly publication. The deadline for applications is April 10....

[**Five new e-newsletters from Choice**](#)

ACRL's *Choice Reviews Online* has launched five free monthly e-newsletters: Editors' Picks, Hot Topics, ShelfLife, Forthcoming Titles, and Internet Resources. To sign up, visit [Choice Reviews Online](#) and hit the gray "Sign up for Our Email Newsletters" button....

Awards

[**Beverly P. Lynch receives 2009 Lippincott Award**](#)

Beverly P. Lynch, professor at the UCLA Graduate School of Education and Information Studies, is this year's recipient of the Joseph W. Lippincott Award. The award, founded in 1938, is given annually to an individual for distinguished service to the profession of librarianship. Lynch served as ALA President in 1985–1986 and has made a remarkable personal commitment to providing widespread service to libraries, educational programs, and the profession at large....



[**Clara Bohrer receives 2009 Sullivan Award**](#)

Clara Nalli Bohrer, director of the West Bloomfield Township (Mich.) Public Library, is the 2009 winner of the Sullivan Award for Public Library Administrators Supporting Services to Children Award. Under Bohrer's direction, the library has become a community center for early literacy and revolves around the principle of stimulating children's minds by providing an environment where children, parents, and caregivers can interact in a meaningful learning environment....



[**2009 James Madison Award winner**](#)

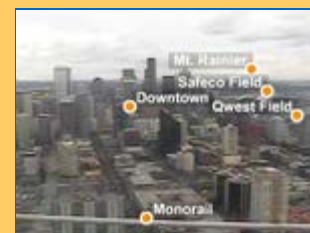
Thomas M. Susman, director of the American Bar Association's Government Affairs Office, has been named winner of the annual James Madison Award. The award was established by ALA in 1986 to honor individuals or groups who have championed, protected, and promoted public access to government information and the public's "right to know" on the national level. Susman will be presented with the award March 13, during the Freedom Forum's 11th Annual National Freedom of Information Day Conference....



[**2009 Kilgour Award winner**](#)

16, in Chicago. Find out more at the [conference placement service](#) page from ALA's Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment, which also provides a [Guide to Employment Sources in the Library and Information Profession](#). From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

@ The [ALA Librarian](#) welcomes your questions.



This is the view [ACRL National Conference attendees](#) will have this weekend if they visit the top of the Seattle [Space Needle](#). Check out more photos in [VR Seattle](#).

Calendar

Mar. 17:
[Open Access and Libraries](#). Columbia University, New York City.

Mar. 19–21:
[American Association of Law Librarians Management Institute](#). Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay. "Manage with Confidence."

Mar. 26–27:

The winner of this year's Frederick G. Kilgour Award is William H. Mischo, head of the Grainger Engineering Library and Information Center at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The award, jointly sponsored by LITA and OCLC, is given for research relevant to the development of information technologies. The award committee chose Mischo from a strong field of nominated leaders and praised his three-decades-long work on the design of user-centered information retrieval tools and services....



[LITA/Brett Butler Entrepreneurship Award](#)

John Blyberg is the 2009 recipient of the LITA/Brett Butler Entrepreneurship Award for his development of the [Social OPAC](#) application suite, also known as SOPAC. SOPAC is a suite of open source software tools that brings the power of social computing and Web 2.0 to the library catalog. Blyberg developed and implemented the current version at the Darien Library in Connecticut....



[Carole D. Fiore ALSC Leadership Fund](#)

ALSC has established the Carole D. Fiore ALSC Leadership Fund, made possible by a generous donation from Carole D. Fiore, a past president of ALSC. The Fund is intended to enhance leadership development within ALSC by sponsoring activities to develop members who show an interest in ALSC and are committed to it as future leaders. Proceeds from the fund may be used to enhance programming at ALSC's Division Leadership Meetings or provide other new opportunities for leadership development....

[WWII Poster wins ACRL Innovation Award](#)

The Bucknell University [World War II Poster Project](#)—developed by Bucknell University's Abby Clobridge, librarian and digital initiatives group leader, and David Willson Del Testa, assistant professor of history—is the recipient of the 2009 ACRL Instruction Section Innovation Award. Sponsored by Lexis-Nexis, the annual award recognizes a project that demonstrates creative, innovative, or unique approaches to information literacy instruction or programming....



[Middleton wins another award](#)

Ken Middleton, reference librarian at Middle Tennessee State University, will receive the 2009 ABC-CLIO Online History Award for his professional achievement in online historical reference highlighted by his development of [Discovering American Women's History Online](#), a web-based historical research tool. The award is administered by the RUSA History Section....



[Donations sought for ASCLA auction](#)

ASCLA seeks donations of goods and services for its upcoming silent auction at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference. Vendors and individuals are encouraged to contribute to this important event, which will be

[Collection Development / Resource Sharing Conference](#), Florida State University Alumni Center, Tallahassee.

Mar 20:
[Chicagoland Drupal4Lib](#), DePaul University Loop Campus, Chicago.

Apr. 3–5:
[Expanding Literacy Studies](#), Ohio State University, Columbus.

Apr. 7:
[Queens Library. Flushing Branch.](#)
"Innovation in Libraries by The Shanachies." Erik Boekesteijn and Jaap van de Geer (The Shanachies) are worldwide-recognized specialists in gaming, libraries, and innovation. Admission is free, but [RSVPs](#) are essential.

Apr. 15–18:
[Museums and the Web](#), Hyatt Regency Indianapolis.

Apr. 21:
[International Workshop on Peer-to-Peer Systems](#), The Boston Park Plaza Hotel and Towers, Boston.

Apr. 23–25:
[American Society for Indexing](#), Annual Conference, Doubletree-Lloyd Center Hotel, Portland, Oregon. "Scaling the Heights."

May 6–7:
[Amigos Library Services Member](#)

held in conjunction with the ASCLA/COSLA reception. Proceeds from the auction directly benefit the ASCLA Century Scholarship fund and promote its long-term financial viability....

Best Book in Library Literature award

ALA has named Jean Preer's *Library Ethics* (Libraries Unlimited, 2008) the winner of the 2009 Greenwood Publishing Group Award to honor the best book published in library literature. The awards committee praised Preer's comprehensive approach to an issue that pervades every aspect of modern library life. The awardee receives \$5,000, donated by the Greenwood Publishing Group....



Marshall Cavendish Excellence in Library Programming Award

ALA has named [Bringing Books to Life](#), an outstanding program of the Nashville Public Library, the 2009 winner of the Marshall Cavendish Excellence in Library Programming Award. Bringing Books to Life, a preschool literacy initiative, brings the library's award-winning literature-based puppet shows together with at-risk young children, their teachers, and their families....



H. W. Wilson Library Staff Development Grant

The New York City Department of Education's Office of Library Services has been awarded the H. W. Wilson Library Staff Development Grant. The grant is presented annually to a library or library organization demonstrating the greatest need for a staff development program furthering the goals and objectives of library services. The office will use the grant to support professional development for the New Yorkers Read—Eight Million Reasons to Read Book Clubs....

San Francisco branch libraries win design award

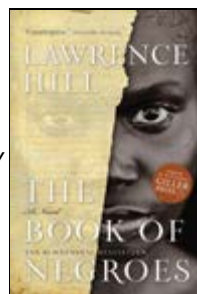
The San Francisco Public Library was honored with a Special Achievement Award by the local chapter of the American Institute of Architects for its innovative redesign of branch libraries throughout the city. The redesign efforts are part of San Francisco's Branch Library Improvement Program, which calls for the renovation of 16 branch libraries and the construction of eight new library buildings....



AIA San Francisco Chapter

Canada Reads competition winner

Canada Reads is an annual "battle of the books" competition organized and broadcast by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. When *The Book of Negroes* (published in the United States as *Someone Knows My Name*) emerged March 6 as the winner of the 2009 Canada Reads showdown on CBC-Radio, it was but the latest in a series of triumphs for Canadian author Lawrence Hill's 2007 bestseller. Set in the 18th century and involving the story of a young African girl who regains her freedom after being sold into slavery, the book also won the Commonwealth Writers' Prize in 2008....



Conference. Crowne Plaza Hotel North Dallas-Addison, Texas. "Navigating the Now."

Aug. 5–7:
Pacific Northwest Library Association. Annual Conference, Missoula, Montana. "A Century of Cooperation, a Legacy of Leadership."

Aug. 8:
African-American Genealogical Research. National Archives and Records Administration-Great Lakes Region, Chicago.

June 22–23:
British Chapter of the International Society for Knowledge Organization. University College London. "Content Architecture: Exploiting and Managing Diverse Resources."

Oct. 1–4:
National Diversity in Libraries Conference. Marriott Louisville Downtown, Kentucky, "Spectrum of the Future."

Oct. 21–23:
Ohio Educational Library Media Association Conference. Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, Ohio. "Educating 21st-Century Leaders."

@ [More...](#)

Contact Us
American Libraries
Direct

Toronto Star, Mar. 6

Seen Online

[Academic libraries foster key skills](#)

ACRL's Betsy Wilson and Erika Linke write: "As students prepare for future careers that will demand top-notch research skills, critical thinking, and a savvy eye for finding information, academic librarians are stepping up to meet those needs. Library professionals are equipping the next generation of engineers, teachers, doctors—and jobs yet to be imagined—with the training and research tools needed to compete in the global marketplace. This is a vital contribution in today's challenging economic times."...

Seattle Times, Mar. 4

[Her son, the press secretary](#)

Nancy Gibbs doesn't get many visits from her son Robert these days. But the head of acquisitions for Duke University Libraries isn't complaining. She knows that her son, Robert L. Gibbs, is an extremely busy man in his job. That job is serving as President Barack Obama's press secretary. She is extremely proud of Robert, whom she first exposed to politics through her work with the League of Women Voters....

Durham (N.C.) Herald-Sun, Mar. 10



[Antioch College library labors on](#)

A visit to Antioch College, which closed last summer, is a bit like a *Twilight Zone* episode—the picturesque Yellow Springs, Ohio, campus has no students or faculty, but it does have a functioning library. The university allots the library a \$300,000 annual budget. Its reduced staff of three keeps up some 1,500 periodical subscriptions and sends books upon request to other Ohio college libraries. Scott Sanders supervises the defunct college's [Antiochiana](#) archives on the library's second floor....

New York Times, Mar. 9



[Free Library chief tries to stay focused](#)

Faced with fallout from her plan to close 11 branches in response to the city's budget crisis, Free Library of Philadelphia Director Siobhan Reardon can't count on her library to offer a peaceful sanctuary. As controversial as the plan has been, Reardon has never shrunk from it. After residents reacted with boisterous demonstrations, angry blogs, and unflattering portrayals in guerrilla street theater, Reardon learned at her peril that Philadelphia is a city of neighborhoods....

Philadelphia Inquirer, Mar. 10



[Pennsylvania State Library faces huge cut](#)

The State Library of Pennsylvania, founded by Benjamin Franklin 263 years ago, has survived two wars and a catastrophic fire. Now, library advocates fear, its latest threat may be its most dire. In the face of a multibillion-dollar deficit, Gov. Ed Rendell wants to halve the state library budget—from \$4.8



AL Direct is a free electronic newsletter emailed every Wednesday to personal members of the [American Library Association](#) and subscribers.

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ext. 4216

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million to \$2.3 million—which could all but wipe out the 56-person staff....

Philadelphia Inquirer, Mar. 5

[Hamline branch closing could be delayed](#)

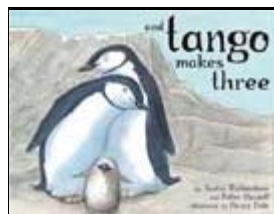
The Hamline Midway branch of the St. Paul (Minn.) Public Library could stay open through the end of the year and not close in the spring as previously proposed, Mayor Chris Coleman and Library Director Melanie Huggins announced March 10 to a crowd of anxious patrons. As many as 100 adults and children showed up to demand the branch stay open for good....

St. Paul (Minn.) Pioneer Press, Mar. 10

[Farmington panel says penguins can stay](#)

A book about a same-sex penguin couple and the egg they hatch together will stay on the library shelves at Meadowview Elementary School in Farmington, Minnesota. A resource review panel met March 4 to discuss the book *And Tango Makes Three*, and to take comments from the public. The only residents to show up were Steve and Tammy VanWinkle, who filed a request last month to have the book moved somewhere students couldn't get to it without a parent's permission....

Farmington (Minn.) Independent, Mar. 6



[Topeka library board under scrutiny](#)

Members of Topeka Bible Church are encouraged to volunteer and serve the community. That helps explain why four current or former church members are on the Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library board of trustees, which has generated criticism recently for restricting minors' access to four sex-related books. Meanwhile, the American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression and the Freedom to Read Foundation joined with other groups to send a [letter](#) March 4 urging the board to restore the books to open shelves....

Topeka (Kans.) Capital-Journal, Mar. 2; American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression



[The demise of VHS and films that are disappearing with it](#)

Anthony Kaufman writes: "Costa-Gavras's 1972 Uruguayan political thriller *State of Siege* is effectively extinct. While it survives in a few used VHS versions and presumably somewhere in 16mm or 35mm film prints, it is among hundreds of important and critically acclaimed films no longer readily accessible for home (or library) viewing. In the wake of video-store shutdowns and the move toward DVD-only subscription services modeled after Netflix and digital downloads, the nondigitized movie is becoming an endangered species."...

Moving Image Source, Feb. 26



[Library VHS collections are dwindling](#)

Like video rental shops, retail stores, and movie buffs before them, libraries are hitting the eject button on VHS tapes. Public libraries in the Chicago suburbs are among those phasing out VHS collections in favor of more-popular DVDs. Patrons don't seem to mind. Cook

Memorial Public Library video customer Josephine Chang said she hadn't even realized the Libertyville library's VHS collection has disappeared....

Arlington Heights (Ill.) Daily Herald, Mar. 2

[Sewickley librarian offers inspiration through video](#)

Alone in a quiet meeting room, Young Adult Librarian Kelly Rottmund connects a laptop computer to a large flat-screen television at the Sewickley (Pa.) Public Library. The silence is broken as groups of teens and pre-teens enter the room, excited to get started. Rottmund has created a program, "Movie Stars @ the library," that gives kids a chance to make films after school using the library's video camera....

Pittsburgh (Pa.) Post-Gazette, Mar. 5

[Thibodaux librarian helps preserve Cajun culture](#)

If Cajun music is in the air, Anke Tonn is likely there. Tonn, interlibrary loan librarian at Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, Louisiana, can be found dancing the two-step at Tipitina's in New Orleans most Sundays. That is, when she's not dancing at whatever local festival is being held that week. She has also created 12 Zydeco festivals at Nicholls and is the driving force behind the school's Louisiana Swamp Stomp Festival, March 20–21....

Thibodaux (La.) Daily Comet, Mar. 9



[Heinrich Böll papers lost in Köln archives collapse](#)

For the best part of a decade, the heirs of German writer and Nobel Prize laureate Heinrich Böll (1917–1985) worked on hammering out a deal with the city of Köln over the transfer of his private papers to the archives. In February, officials held a special ceremony to mark the historic handover: For €800,000 (\$1.01 million U.S.), the archives took possession of hundreds of boxes of scripts and unpublished works by Germany's most popular postwar writer. But all these have been lost forever after the collapse of the archives building March 3. The theory now is that the collapse was caused by [ground water seepage](#) at a nearby construction site. More than 100 books from the medieval chronicles collection have been [recovered](#) undamaged so far....

The Guardian (U.K.), Mar. 6; Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Mar. 9; Medieval News, Mar. 8



[Students teach lawmakers the value of technology](#)

Students from four Georgia school districts were on Capitol Hill March 4 showing federal lawmakers how technology is being used to enhance teaching and learning in their classrooms—and why federal funding for school technology is important. Sixteen students from four Georgia counties participated in Capitol Hill Tech Day, pulling legislators aside to show them how they can listen to podcasts on iPods to hear lessons they missed when they were absent from school and how interactive whiteboards make class interesting....

eSchool News, Mar. 5

[David Smith: NYPL's librarian to the stars](#)

David Smith has worked at the 42nd Street and Fifth Avenue branch of the New York Public Library for 30

years, starting as a clerk and eventually landing at the General Research Division. Currently he's a supervising librarian (and [librarian to the stars](#)), a vault of information, and a teller of some fascinating stories. Recently he spoke about giving Werner Herzog an insider's tour of the NYPL, how stacks run all under Bryant Park, and his friend Joey Goldstein (the New Yorker he most admired)....

The Gothamist, Mar. 6; *New York Times*, Dec. 31, 2007



[Some doors a library card can't open](#)

A 34-year-old Sheboygan, Wisconsin, man was charged March 6 after allegedly leaving his library card behind while stealing beer from a Plymouth tavern. A bartender called police early February 22 after discovering lights on, a cooler open, and a window screen cut in the basement. She also found Kristopher Lehnhardt's Mead Public Library card on the floor by a door, where it appeared to have been used in an attempt to pick the lock....

Sheboygan (Wis.) Press, Mar. 7

[Flood closes Richmond Hill library](#)

A flood at the Richmond Hill (Ont.) Central Library has the library closed for approximately two weeks. A leak originated in the building's heating system early on March 1 and spread throughout the library, soaking through the third and second floors down to ground level. Library CEO Jane Horrocks said 28,000–30,000 books suffered water damage and have been put aside for freeze-drying in an attempt to salvage the material....

Richmond Hill (Ont.) Liberal, Mar. 5

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Six best video-editing apps](#)

Jason Fitzpatrick writes: "You want to be the supreme ruler of your own virtual cutting room? Better break out the checkbook—your film-chopping powers aren't going to come cheaply. We can't promise cheap and open source, but we can promise that the contenders are—price tags and all—worthy of inclusion. A final note regarding pricing: Many of the video editors can only be purchased as part of a bundle of software."...

Lifehacker, Mar. 8



[Google Docs suffers privacy glitch](#)

Jason Kincaid writes: "In a privacy error that underscores some of the biggest problems surrounding cloud-based services, Google has sent a notice to a number of users of its document and spreadsheet products stating that it may have inadvertently shared some of their documents with contacts who were never granted access to them. According to the notice, this sharing was limited to people 'with whom you, or a



collaborator with sharing rights, had previously shared a document'— a vague statement that sounds like it could add up to quite a few people."...

TechCrunch, Mar. 7

Browsers are changing to accommodate powerful applications

Erica Naone writes: "We've come a long way from the flat documents that made up the web in its early years. As internet access has expanded and bandwidth has increased, designers and programmers have figured out ways to build sophisticated, interactive applications that run in the browser. Nowadays, these programs include web-based word processors, photo-editing software, money-management tools, and much more. The [next generation](#) of HTML promises to make web applications work even better."...

Technology Review, Mar. 10

11 nontraditional uses for WordPress

Steven Snell writes: "WordPress is probably the most popular blogging platform, and it can also be used as a CMS to power other types of websites.

With some creativity and a growing number of available resources, WordPress seems to be expanding constantly."

This article gives an overview of 11 nontraditional uses for the software, including a membership directory, job board, and email newsletter manager....

Designm.ag, Mar. 1



Five sites for experiencing the web in real time

Frederic Lardinois writes: "One of the most interesting trends on the internet right now is a move toward a more real-time experience. We have seen a lot of discussion lately about how Twitter is leading the charge by creating a search engine for the real-time web, for example. However, there are also a good number of other services that already expose some of the promises of the real-time web."...

ReadWriteWeb, Mar. 6



A one-stop spot for vital system stats

Tim Smith writes: "Windows comes packaged with many tools to show details about the current state of your system. There's Task Manager for discovering the processes that are using your CPU, Resource Monitor for investigating your disk activity, and Explorer for showing the total usage of all your drives. Wouldn't it be useful to have these stats all together in one handy, attractive application? What's Going On? is a *PC Magazine* system utility that gives you a one-stop spot for all your system's vital stats."...

PC Magazine, Feb. 26



Drupal for n00bs

Cindi Trainor writes: "Drupal Camp 2009 at Darien Library in Connecticut was my first unconference. Drupal is hard. It has its own vocabulary. But the way I see it, the fact that Drupal has a steep learning curve is no excuse for complacency. After attending Drupal Camp and hearing others talk about how they created modules and sites, I'd recommend these steps to other newbies." Sarah Houghton-Jan



[lists](#) some essential Drupal resources....

ALA TechSource blog, Mar. 9; Librarian in Black, Mar. 4

[Digitizing microfilm](#) (PDF file)

Derek Jenkins writes: "Image processing consists of two phases: real-time (scan-time) enhancements, and post-scanning enhancements. Both are important and must be considered for each job. In many cases, the real-time enhancement delivers an acceptable image, but under some circumstances, a better result would have been obtained if the images were post-processed."...

Journal of Imaging Services 17, no. 3

Publishing

[10 websites for book lovers](#)

Ellyssa Kroski writes: "At this point most everyone has heard of LibraryThing, the most popular social cataloging website online, and perhaps even of the Amazon-owned Shelfari, but here are a few websites for book lovers that you may not have heard about—including the [Book Cover Archive](#), a collection of over 1,000 book covers categorized and browsable by designers, authors, titles, art directors, photographers, and illustrators."...

iLibrarian, Mar. 4



[Slumdog's inspiration and 19 other Indian novels](#)

Naturally there was a novel behind *Slumdog Millionaire*, the Oscar-winning film. But *Q & A*, by Vikas Swarup, the inspiration for Danny Boyle's acclaimed movie, is just one of the many recent examples of Indian literature to have a worldwide impact. Modern Indian authors and writers of Indian descent have been taking home literary awards for decades. *The White Tiger*, *The Inheritance of Loss*, *In a Free State*, and *The God of Small Things* all won the Man Booker Prize, and there are many more great novels to read....

Abebooks



[On campus, vampires are besting the Beats](#)

Ron Charles writes: "In 1969, when Alice Echols went to college, everybody she knew was reading *Soul on Ice*, Eldridge Cleaver's new collection of essays. Forty years later, on today's college campuses, you're more likely to hear a werewolf howl than Allen Ginsberg, and Nin's transgressive sexuality has been replaced by the fervent chastity of Bella Swan, the teenage heroine of Stephenie Meyer's modern gothic *Twilight* series. It's as though somebody stole Abbie Hoffman's book—and a whole generation of radical lit along with it."...

Washington Post, Mar. 8





Actions & Answers

[Senate passes Omnibus Appropriations bill](#)

After several days of squabbling, the Senate approved the FY2009 Omnibus Appropriations bill March 10, which includes nine unfinished appropriations bills from last year. Overall, libraries of all types fared well ([PDF file](#)). The bill contains \$171.5 million for the Grants to State Library Agencies program within the LSTA. This is an increase of over \$10 million from last year....

District Dispatch, Mar. 11

[Stimulus may come to the rescue of school libraries](#)

With state funding for schools on the decline, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act could not have come at a more critical time for school libraries. ARRA includes \$100 billion for education that can help school libraries ensure that students are prepared to enter a 21st-century workforce, prevent cutbacks and layoffs, and modernize our nation's school libraries....

District Dispatch, Mar. 10

[Stimulus includes grants for senior employment](#)

One thing many may not know about the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is that it includes a provision that can help senior citizens find jobs—by working at the local library. The ARRA contains additional funding for the Senior Community Service Employment Program, which provides community service jobs to older Americans at nonprofit and public facilities, including libraries....

District Dispatch, Mar. 10

[Schedule for education stimulus funding](#)

Funds under the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) and Title I, Part A, will be available in two stages. Funds from these very large programs are to be delivered by formula from the U.S. Department of Education to the states. The Department of Education will release 50% of Title I, Part A, before the end of March without requiring new state applications. Streamlined, user-friendly applications for the initial 67% of the SFSF will be available to governors by the end of March....

District Dispatch, Mar. 10

[Broadband stimulus funding](#)

At a March 10 public meeting, members of the Commerce Department, Department of Agriculture, and Federal Communications Commission gave an update on the \$7.2-billion broadband funding provisions of the ARRA. They reiterated the purpose: to close the broadband gap in America; stimulate investment; create jobs; ensure that schools, libraries, hospitals, and other "community anchor institutions" have the connectivity they need; and encourage overall demand....

District Dispatch, Mar. 10

[Folkways Collection podcasts](#)

The Smithsonian's Folkways Collection podcast series splits the remarkable story of Moses Asch's

label (home to Woody Guthrie, Leadbelly, and Pete Seeger that was transferred to the Smithsonian after his death) into 24 one-hour podcasts, each featuring interviews and original recordings from the Folkways archive of 2,000-plus recordings. Folk music, children's music, recordings of frogs, the tragic story of Phil Ochs, and examples of Allen Ginsberg's ill-advised forays into the blues are all included. The series was produced by CKUA Radio Network in Alberta and originally aired in 1999....
Smithsonian Folkways



Try the FunWorks

The FunWorks is a nationally acclaimed STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) career exploration website developed for and by youth aged 11 to 15. It provides interactive career experiences and makes use of music and sports to help teens explore potential careers. The site was produced by the nonprofit Education Development Center with funding from the National Science Foundation....

The FunWorks



Thinkfinity @ your library

Have you checked out this new front door to explore Thinkfinity.org content yet? Thinkfinity.org is the Verizon Foundation's online portal to 55,000 standards-based, grade-specific, K-12 lesson plans and other educational resources provided with many of the nation's leading educational and literacy organizations. Trainers from Thinkfinity.org were on hand during the ALA Midwinter Meeting, demonstrating how librarians can use the site....

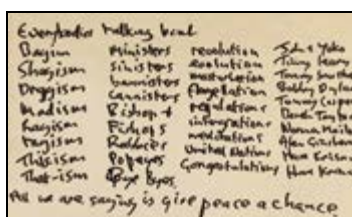
Visibility @ your library, Mar. 9

Top auction sales of 2008

Ian McKay and P. Scott Brown write:

"John Lennon's scribbled lyrics to 'Give Peace a Chance' (right) sold for nearly \$1 million last summer, which prompted a continuing discussion among *Fine Books* editors about what should make our list of the top auction sales. If you go by the highest prices paid for all things written, printed books drop down on the list. Take this past year: While three single-sheet fragments of the Qur'an sold for millions, only the first edition of Copernicus's masterwork broke into seven figures."...

Fine Books and Collections, Mar.



What drives people to steal rare books

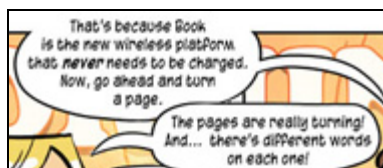
Tim Richardson writes: "Every so often a high-profile example of book theft makes the news. The crime in question does not concern hard-up students helping themselves to textbooks. Rather it details cases of premeditated, often audacious, theft of beautiful and rare books. One day a few years ago, as the only other user present at the Royal Horticultural Society's Lindley Library in Westminster, I had the dubious privilege of witnessing the arrest of notorious book thief William Jacques, alias Mr. Santoro or David Fletcher and sometimes dubbed the Tome Raider."...

Financial Times, Mar. 6

[Penny Arcade discovers the Book](#)

Penny Arcade, a webcomic focused on video games and gaming culture written by Jerry Holkins and illustrated by Mike Krahulik, debuted in 1998. On March 1, it won the category Best Webcomic in the fan-voted [Project Fanboy Awards](#) for 2008. In its March 9 strip, "Progress," it takes on the discovery of an amazing retro format—the Book....

Penny Arcade, Mar. 9



[North Carolina to help with job searches](#)

North Carolina Gov. Bev Perdue has announced a new program, the JobSearch Help Desk, which will train librarians to help patrons connect with employers and conduct job searches at public libraries. Beginning in March, the state library will conduct training sessions for librarians in nine locations. The workshops will focus on use of North Carolina's statewide electronic database consortium NC LIVE plus print and online tools for skills such as résumé writing, job searching, and interviewing....

North Carolina Governor's Office, Feb. 13



[New York Public Library and today's economic crisis](#)

Ann Thornton writes: "Three weeks ago, we surveyed participants in public programs and training classes and found that more than one-third of them were unemployed and searching for jobs. In the last four months, we have documented an increase of 38% in unique users searching for and using job information on the library's website. And from the front lines, staff members are reporting increasing questions from users about job-related topics, from unemployment insurance to résumé writing."...

Blogg@NYPL, Mar. 3

[Public libraries during the Great Depression](#)

Charles A. Seavey writes: "The expansion of the American public library in the teeth of the Great Depression demonstrates very clearly the importance of the institution to American society. Any institution for which the American populace is willing to tax itself to support occupies an important place in the country. While the growth of the public library was not uniform across the country, it was, nonetheless, a nationwide phenomenon—every state started new libraries. And while some federal money was involved, it was local funds and local initiative that was largely responsible."...

Based on a paper presented at the IFLA Conference in Glasgow, Aug. 20, 2002



[Libraries to start lending money](#) (satire)

In its latest bid to kick-start the nation's ailing economy, the government has announced that public libraries will extend their current range of services to include the lending of money. From today, customers borrowing books will also be able to take out financial loans for a period of three weeks, though it may be possible to renew the terms of these agreements provided no other customer

is waiting to borrow the cash....

NewsBiscuit, Mar. 3

[Using Skype for reference](#)

This episode of Chad Boeninger's Monday Night Update (4:55) discusses and shows how the Ohio University Libraries' Skype Reference Service works. The video shows the kiosk setup and discusses some of the issues with the service. The Skype kiosk rings a computer at the reference desk through the campus wireless network. Chad says: "It's a free service and it's kind of fun to mess with."...

Library Voice, Mar. 3



[Getting it out together](#)

Peter Brantley writes: "We must tell stories for everyone, not just for ourselves. And for libraries, that means staying away from baroque library standards; weird metadata protocols and data exchange standards that no one else uses. It means taking only the best of what we've developed, the work that is most flexible and lightweight, such as OpenURL, OAI-PMH, and Dublin Core, and integrating it with RSS and ATOM; OAuth and OpenID; Sitemap and OpenSearch. Anything that is complicated must be left behind."...

Peter Brantley's Thoughts and Speculations, Mar. 1

[100 tools to research the deep web](#)



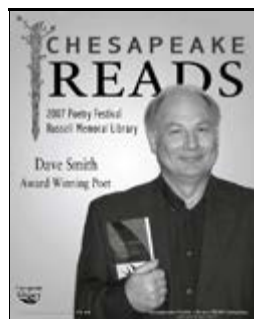
Alisa Miller writes: "Experts say that typical search engines like Yahoo! and Google only pick up about 1% of the information available on the internet. The rest of that information is considered to be hidden in the deep web, also referred to as the invisible web. So how can you find all the rest of this information? This list offers 100 tips and tools to help you get the most out of your searches."...

Online College Blog

[Chesapeake Poetry Festival](#)

Jean Carideo writes: "For the last 16 years, Russell Memorial Library has been the home of the Chesapeake (Va.) Poetry Festival. The first festival, held in 1993, was the result of a casual conversation between Norfolk attorney C. Edward Russell Jr. and Chesapeake Public Library Director Margaret Stillman. The idea began when Russell was taking a class in poetry at Virginia Commonwealth University taught by his longtime friend and Poet Laureate of Portsmouth Dave Smith (above)."...

Virginia Libraries 54, no. 3-4



[Get your news from the library](#)

Douglas County (Colo.) Librarian Jamie LaRue writes: "Frankly, I'm worried about this trend: A lot of newspapers are in trouble, and that does not bode well for the well-researched, investigative journalism upon which an informed citizenry depends. More often than not, the content of blogs is opinion, not news. That leads me to a radical solution. If the business model of for-profit newspapers is broken, then maybe what we need them to do is merge with an obvious partner: the public library."...

LaRue's Views, Mar. 12

[UCLA acquires Aldous Huxley archive](#)

The UCLA Library has acquired the literary archive of the visionary novelist and essayist Aldous Huxley (1894–1963). The collection contains literary materials he created subsequent to a devastating 1961 fire that destroyed his Los Angeles home and much of his earlier archive; correspondence, photographs, and audiotapes; and typescripts and galley proofs retrieved from publishers after his death. Also included are the papers of his wife, Laura Huxley (1911–2007), an author and lay therapist, who chose UCLA as the home for the Aldous and Laura Huxley Collection shortly before her death....

University of California, Los Angeles, Mar. 6



[Peter Mulvey live at Kalamazoo Public Library](#)

Singer-songwriter Peter Mulvey entertained (9:46) a crowd of more than 150 at a special February 18 concert at the Kalamazoo (Mich.) Public Library. Mulvey is the ninth musician featured in KPL's popular [Live Music concert series](#). The show featured Mulvey's signature guitar style, humorous storytelling, and beautiful songs. [Part 2](#) (10:40) is also online....

YouTube, Feb. 26



[The Adventures of Stella Kos, Special Librarian, 2109](#)

Cathy Carr, Kent State University library student and SLA Student Chapter member, contributed this video (2:00) for the Special Libraries Association Centennial video contest. Kos unravels the mystery of why the Chicago Cubs have never won the World Series since 1908. Watch other SLA centennial videos [here](#)....

YouTube, Feb. 23



[Go back to the Top](#)

AL Direct, March 11, 2009

Having trouble viewing this HTML e-mail (or seeing it in full)? Click
here [[<%= util.viewHtmlLink %>](#)].

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | March 11, 2009

Contents

U.S. & World News [[#usworld](#)]
ALA News [[#alanews](#)]
AL Focus [[#alfocus](#)]
Booklist Online [[#booklist](#)]
Division News [[#divisionnews](#)]
Awards [[#awards](#)]
Seen Online [[#seenonline](#)]
Tech Talk [[#techtalk](#)]
Publishing [[#publishing](#)]
Actions & Answers [[#actionsanswers](#)]
Calendar [[#datebook](#)]

[<http://www.schoolrooms.net>]

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

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It's pink-slip season for California school librarians

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/march2009/califpinkslips.cfm>]

In what seems to have become an annual spring rite in the Golden State, school boards throughout California have been issuing layoff notices to school library media specialists, as well as other educators and support staff, to ensure that the districts meet the March 15 notification deadline mandated by the state education code. With an \$8.4-billion drop in state support to K–12 schools and higher education through June 30, 2010, the California Teachers Association estimated [<http://www.cta.org/media/newsroom/releases/20090303.htm>] in early March that some 17,800 preliminary layoff notices would be issued to its members; 10,000 were sent in 2008....
American Libraries Online, Mar. 11

Chattanooga library report calls for major reforms

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/march2009/cha>

ttanoogareport.cfm]

The Chattanooga–Hamilton County (Tenn.) Bicentennial Library was slammed in a consultants’ report (PDF file [http://www.chattanooga.gov/Files/CHCBL_Report_FINAL_02_16_09.pdf]) that said the library “lacks a clear vision for the future,” is underfunded in both its operating and capital budgets, has a problematic governance structure, has buildings that are unattractive and inadequate, and uses outdated technology. Consultants June Garcia and Susan Kent called the governance and funding structure of the library “problematic and confusing,” and faulted the library for not having a fundraising program or a strategic plan....
American Libraries Online, Mar. 9

ALA News

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Polls open March 17 for ALA election

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/alaelectionpollsopen.cfm>]

ALA is holding its annual election for president, treasurer, and members-at-large for ALA Council. Polls open March 17 and close at 11:59 p.m. Central Time, April 24. Broadcast emails, announcing polls’ opening and giving member number, pass code, and instructions, will be sent beginning March 17, with the last emails sent by 9 a.m., March 19. If you have not received your ballot by March 20, contact membership@ala.org [<mailto:membership@ala.org>]....

New season of Step Up to the Plate @ your library

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/campaignstepupnewseason.cfm>]

ALA and the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum have teamed up for Season Four of Step Up to the Plate @ your library, beginning National Library Week, April 12–18. This national program brings together two American classics—libraries and baseball—to promote information literacy and the library as an essential information resource. Visit the website [<http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/advocacy/publicawareness/campaign@yourlibrary/sponsorship/stepup/stepup.cfm>] to register for free promotional tools that include program logos in both English and Spanish and a toolkit that includes sample press materials and programming ideas....

2009 Diversity and Outreach Fair

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/olosdivfair.cfm>]

ALA invites members from all types of libraries to participate in the Diversity and Outreach Fair, 3–5 p.m., July 11, during ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The fair will center on services to older adults. Sponsored by DEMCO, the fair is organized by the Office for Literacy and Outreach Services as a way to celebrate examples of diversity in American libraries. Selected applicants will share their diversity initiatives in face-to-face presentations with conferees through poster sessions and conversations....

[<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/harrypottersworld/index.html>]Traveling

exhibit connects Harry Potter, real-world sciences

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/ppoharrypotter.cfm>]

The ALA Public Programs Office, in cooperation with the National Library of Medicine, announces a new small-format traveling exhibition for libraries: “Harry Potter’s World: Renaissance Science, Magic, and Medicine

[<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/harrypottersworld/index.html>].”

Public, academic, and medical libraries may apply to host the banner exhibition by downloading an application

[<http://www.ala.org/harrypotter>], due at ALA by May 1....

Certified Public Library Administrator Program open

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/aapacpla.cfm>]

Public library managers are invited to apply for the Certified Public Library Administrator Program. Candidates will learn about budgeting, personnel, building management, and grantwriting—the skills a manager needs in the 21st century. The application

[<http://www.ala-apa.org/certification/cplaapplication.html>] deadline is March 20....

Mayo to present 2009 Coleman Lecture

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/olosc Coleman.cfm>]

Kathleen Mayo, head of outreach services for the Lee County (Fla.)

Library System, will present the 2009 Dr. Jean E. Coleman Outreach

Lecture for the Office for Literacy and Outreach Services July 13 at ALA

Annual Conference in Chicago. Her lecture, “The Challenges and Opportunities of Serving America’s Elders,” will look at the American population as it ages and how libraries are responding to the reality of lifelong learning....

Planning for Annual Conference

[<http://discuss.ala.org/marginalia/2009/03/04/planning-for-annual-conference/>]

ALA Librarian Karen Muller writes: “The March issue of American Libraries is shrink-wrapped with the preliminary program (PDF file

[http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/2009_prelimprogram_FINAL.pdf]) for the 2009 ALA Annual Conference.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/index.cfm>] In between reference calls and staff questions, I’ve been paging through it. On the inside back cover is a short planning calendar—a handy place to note whatever catches my eye now so I can see if I can shoehorn in an extra activity. I also looked at the field trips being offered by Camp ALA, which kids always enjoy.”...

ALA Marginalia, Mar. 4

ALA student-to-staff program

[<http://www.students.ala.org/studentmemberblog/?p=125>]

Each year during Annual Conference, the Chapter Relations Office puts together a group of student volunteers from the student chapters to assist ALA staff. To qualify for the student-to-staff program

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/cro/studentchapters/studentchapter>]

pages/studenttostaffprogram.cfm], the student must be a current ALA member and a member of a student chapter, and cannot have previously participated in the program. Each school has its own selection process, and the chosen student's name must be submitted to ALA by the group's faculty adviser. Contact Don Wood [mailto:dwood@ala.org] for more information....

ALA Student Member Blog, Mar. 9

Children's lit in Second Life

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/hrdrsecondlife.cfm>]

From 9:45 a.m. until noon Pacific Time on March 17, the ALA Recruitment Assembly will celebrate "Adventures in Children's Literature: Careers for School, Public, and Academic Librarians" in Second Life. Come join the assembly on ALA Island [<http://slurl.com/secondlife/ALA%20Island/128/103/29>] and hear from public librarians, school librarians, and even academic librarians whose work involves promoting a love of reading in young people....

AL Focus

Interview with Ann Brashares

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/ann-brashares-interview>]

Booklist sat down with YA author Ann Brashares to talk about her new book 3 Willows and how it compares to her best-selling Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants series. In this interview (3:41), Brashares opens up about the chances of the new book expanding into a series, how hard it is to let go of beloved characters, and how she likes to imagine her characters' lives at age 4, 14, 40, and beyond....

Interview with Ingrid Law

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/ingrid-law-interview>]

Just one day before winning a Newbery Honor Award for her book Savvy, author Ingrid Law sat down with Booklist and spoke about the origin of the term, how she wanted to write a book about magic without the word "magic," talking to children about their own secret powers, and how librarians inspire her (3:08). Bonus: Law also gives us a sneak peak of her next book, a Savvy sequel....

Featured review: Reference

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3258696]

J. Baird Callicott and Robert Frodeman, eds. Encyclopedia of Environmental Ethics and Philosophy. Oct. 2008. 585p. Macmillan, hardcover (978-0-02-866137-7).

It seems fitting that the two volumes in this set start with entries for Edward Abbey and Wes Jackson, men who spoke for appropriate and ethical interaction with nature. Abbey espoused the value of wildness for its own sake, and Jackson continues to work for agriculture that complements natural ecosystems. Here, they are the lead-ins to a wealth of

information, both deep and broad. As stated in the introduction, "Environmental philosophy is bursting through conventional disciplinary boundaries," and the encyclopedia reflects this "dedisciplining" by offering a wide range of perspectives. Entries include not only the topics one might expect (Aquifers, Bhopal, Ecotourism, Sierra Club) but other subjects, such as religion (Jainism) and art (Hudson River school). There are also brief biographies of poets (Robinson Jeffers), activists (Vandana Shiva), scientists (Paul Ehrlich), philosophers (Murray Bookchin), and others. The purpose is to provide "succinct accounts of the core values and issues surrounding humanity's relationship to the natural world." The 321 scholarly, accessible, and thought-provoking signed entries are the products of an impressive array of scholars....

In the March 15 issue

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=general_info&id=49]

It's high time for some good publishing news. The 2009 ALA notable and "best" lists may have only an indirect bearing on publishers' bottom lines, but they certainly say something about the high quality of the books and media published in the last year. It's easy to forget, at a time when economic news is dominating publishing-industry headlines, that there are more good books published every year than any of us has time to read. You'll find an impressive number of those good books—and good audiobooks and videos—in the 11 best lists that begin this issue....

@ Visit Booklist Online [<http://www.booklistonline.com/>] for other reviews and much more....

Division News

Art Institute president to speak in Chicago

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/alcspresprogram.cfm>]

ALCTS will present James Cuno, president and director of the Art Institute of Chicago, as the featured speaker for its President's Program, July 13, at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. Cuno's recent book, *Who Owns Antiquity? Museums and the Battle over Our Ancient Heritage*, published by Princeton University Press, will be the subject of his presentation....

Teens can vote for the 2010 Teen Tech Week theme

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/yalsattwvote.cfm>]

YALSA invites all teens to get out the vote for Teen Tech Week, March 8–14. Teens can vote for the 2010 Teen Tech Week theme (and answer a short survey

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=Fe3Y3gJFDe2ggPMXyst_2bGg_3d_3d] about their use of technology) on the YALSA website.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/yalsa/teentechweek/ttw09/home.cfm>]

They can choose from three potential themes: TMI @ your library; FYI @ your library; and Create, Share, Learn @ your library. The poll will also survey teens on their tech habits, how they use technology at school or in their free time, and the availability of technology at their libraries....

[<http://www.lita.org/ala/mgrps/divs/lita/litaevents/litacamp/index.cfm>]Library technology unconference

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/litaunconference.cfm>]

Have you ever been “speed-geeking”? Struck by “lightning-talks”? Join keynoters Joan Frye Williams and John Blyberg at the first-ever LITACamp,

[<http://www.lita.org/ala/mgrps/divs/lita/litaevents/litacamp/index.cfm>]

“The Everywhere Library: Creating, Communicating, Integrating,” May 7–8, in Dublin, Ohio. Participants determine the topic and format of the sessions on-site, sign up for time slots, and pitch session ideas to all. Registration is accepted online (PDF file

[<http://www.lita.org/ala/mgrps/divs/lita/litaevents/litacamp/registrationFORM.pdf>]) and onsite. A special housing rate is available until April 10....

AASL April Learning4Life webinars

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/aaslllearning4life.cfm>]

April is School Library Media Month. This year, AASL offers a webinar series designed for school library media specialists. The webinars are part of AASL’s Learning4Life, an initiative to implement Standards for the 21st-Century Learner and Empowering Learners: Guidelines for School Library Media Programs (available in mid-April) nationally. The webinars will be held at 4:30 p.m. Central Time on Wednesdays....

Educational tours during AASL conference

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/aasleducationaltours.cfm>]

Attendees of the AASL 14th National Conference and Exhibition in Charlotte, North Carolina, November 5–8, are encouraged to sign up early for one of the educational tours

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/conferencesandevents/national/charlotte2009/forattendees/tours/educationaltours.cfm>] offered Wednesday and Thursday before the conference. Tours include the Biltmore Estate (right), historic homes and neighborhoods of Charlotte, and the NASCAR Valley....

LLAMA preconferences in Chicago

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/llamachicagopreconferences.cfm>]

LLAMA will offer a wide range of topics during seven preconferences at this year’s ALA Annual Conference. Preconferences will take place 9 a.m.–5 p.m., July 10. Registration is available through the ALA Annual Conference website [<http://www.ala.org/annual>]. Topics include: An Inside Look at Leadership, Moving Your Library’s Collections, Green Library Interiors: Fact and Fiction, and Living the Balanced Scorecard....

ALCTS: How to present a webinar

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/alctshowtowebinar.cfm>]

ALCTS is committed to creating webinars on emerging issues in technical services areas and practical information. "How to Present a Webinar," the first in a series of how-tos, will train potential presenters on developing and presenting a webinar. The webinar is presented by Keri Cascio, and will be presented live three times in March....

ALCTS webinars on institutional repositories

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/alctsrepositorywebinars.cfm>]

ALCTS is offering three webinars on institutional repositories beginning in April. Based on the successful IR symposium held at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver, the sessions introduce participants to the IR movement and provide tools for decision-making about implementation and maintenance. Future topics slated for fall 2009 include open access, intellectual property, copyright, consortial implementation, and using the IR as a publishing platform....

YALSA seeks editor for quarterly journal

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/yalsaeditor.cfm>]

YALSA is accepting applications for a member editor for its journal, Young Adult Library Services, a 2008 APEX Award honoree. The editor (PDF file [http://yalsa.ala.org/YALS_POSITION_DESCRIPTION_09.pdf]) will be responsible for the textual and pictorial content of the quarterly publication. The deadline for applications is April 10....

Choice

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/publications/choice/e-newsletters.cfm>]

ACRL's Choice Reviews Online has launched five free monthly e-newsletters: Editors' Picks, Hot Topics, ShelfLife, Forthcoming Titles, and Internet Resources. To sign up, visit Choice Reviews Online [<http://www.cro2.org>] and hit the gray "Sign up for Our Email Newsletters" button....

Awards

Beverly P. Lynch receives 2009 Lippincott Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/governancelippincott.cfm>]

Beverly P. Lynch, professor at the UCLA Graduate School of Education and Information Studies, is this year's recipient of the Joseph W. Lippincott Award. The award, founded in 1938, is given annually to an individual for distinguished service to the profession of librarianship. Lynch served as ALA President in 1985–1986 and has made a remarkable personal commitment to providing widespread service to libraries,

educational programs, and the profession at large....

Clara Bohrer receives 2009 Sullivan Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/governancesullivan.cfm>]

Clara Nalli Bohrer, director of the West Bloomfield Township (Mich.) Public Library, is the 2009 winner of the Sullivan Award for Public Library Administrators Supporting Services to Children Award. Under Bohrer's direction, the library has become a community center for early literacy and revolves around the principle of stimulating children's minds by providing an environment where children, parents, and caregivers can interact in a meaningful learning environment....

2009 James Madison Award winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/wojamesmadison.cfm>]

Thomas M. Susman, director of the American Bar Association's Government Affairs Office, has been named winner of the annual James Madison Award. The award was established by ALA in 1986 to honor individuals or groups who have championed, protected, and promoted public access to government information and the public's "right to know" on the national level. Susman will be presented with the award March 13, during the Freedom Forum's 11th Annual National Freedom of Information Day Conference....

2009 Kilgour Award winner

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/likilgour.cfm>]

The winner of this year's Frederick G. Kilgour Award is William H. Mischo, head of the Grainger Engineering Library and Information Center at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The award, jointly sponsored by LITA and OCLC, is given for research relevant to the development of information technologies. The award committee chose Mischo from a strong field of nominated leaders and praised his three-decades-long work on the design of user-centered information retrieval tools and services....

LITA/Brett Butler Entrepreneurship Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/litabutler.cfm>]

John Blyberg is the 2009 recipient of the LITA/Brett Butler Entrepreneurship Award for his development of the Social OPAC [<http://thesocialopac.net>] application suite, also known as SOPAC. SOPAC is a suite of open source software tools that brings the power of social computing and Web 2.0 to the library catalog. Blyberg developed and implemented the current version at the Darien Library in Connecticut....

Carole D. Fiore ALSC Leadership Fund

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/alscfiore.cfm>]

ALSC has established the Carole D. Fiore ALSC Leadership Fund, made possible by a generous donation from Carole D. Fiore, a past president of ALSC. The Fund is intended to enhance leadership development within ALSC

by sponsoring activities to develop members who show an interest in ALSC and are committed to it as future leaders. Proceeds from the fund may be used to enhance programming at ALSC's Division Leadership Meetings or provide other new opportunities for leadership development....

WWII Poster wins ACRL Innovation Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/acrlww2.cfm>]

The Bucknell University World War II Poster Project

[<http://www.bucknell.edu/x35646.xml>]
—developed by Bucknell University's Abby Clobridge, librarian and digital initiatives group leader, and David Willson Del Testa, assistant professor of history—is the recipient of the 2009 ACRL Instruction Section Innovation Award. Sponsored by Lexis-Nexis, the annual award recognizes a project that demonstrates creative, innovative, or unique approaches to information literacy instruction or programming....

Middleton wins another award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/rusaclio.cfm>]

Ken Middleton, reference librarian at Middle Tennessee State University, will receive the 2009 ABC-CLIO Online History Award for his professional achievement in online historical reference highlighted by his development of Discovering American Women's History Online

[<http://library.mtsu.edu/digitalprojects/womenshistory.php>], a web-based historical research tool. The award is administered by the RUSA History Section....

Donations sought for ASCLA auction

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/asclaauction.cfm>]

ASCLA seeks donations of goods and services for its upcoming silent auction at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference. Vendors and individuals are encouraged to contribute to this important event, which will be held in conjunction with the ASCLA/COSLA reception. Proceeds from the auction directly benefit the ASCLA Century Scholarship fund and promote its long-term financial viability....

Best Book in Library Literature award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/governancegreenwood.cfm>]

ALA has named Jean Preer's Library Ethics (Libraries Unlimited, 2008) the winner of the 2009 Greenwood Publishing Group Award to honor the best book published in library literature. The awards committee praised Preer's comprehensive approach to an issue that pervades every aspect of modern library life. The awardee receives \$5,000, donated by the Greenwood Publishing Group....

Marshall Cavendish Excellence in Library Programming Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/governancecavendish.cfm>]

ALA has named Bringing Books to Life,

[http://www.library.nashville.org/services/ser_bookstolife.asp] an outstanding program of the Nashville Public Library, the 2009 winner of

the Marshall Cavendish Excellence in Library Programming Award. Bringing Books to Life, a preschool literacy initiative, brings the library's award-winning literature-based puppet shows together with at-risk young children, their teachers, and their families....

H. W. Wilson Library Staff Development Grant

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/governancewilson.cfm>]

The New York City Department of Education's Office of Library Services has been awarded the H. W. Wilson Library Staff Development Grant. The grant is presented annually to a library or library organization demonstrating the greatest need for a staff development program furthering the goals and objectives of library services. The office will use the grant to support professional development for the New Yorkers Read—Eight Million Reasons to Read Book Clubs....

San Francisco branch libraries win design award

[http://www.aiasf.org/Programs/Awards_Program/Design_Awards/204.htm]

The San Francisco Public Library was honored with a Special Achievement Award by the local chapter of the American Institute of Architects for its innovative redesign of branch libraries throughout the city. The redesign efforts are part of San Francisco's Branch Library Improvement Program, which calls for the renovation of 16 branch libraries and the construction of eight new library buildings....

AIA San Francisco Chapter

Canada Reads competition winner

[<http://www.thestar.com/entertainment/article/597205>]

Canada Reads is an annual "battle of the books" competition organized and broadcast by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. When *The Book of Negroes* (published in the United States as *Someone Knows My Name*) emerged March 6 as the winner of the 2009 Canada Reads showdown on CBC-Radio, it was but the latest in a series of triumphs for Canadian author Lawrence Hill's 2007 bestseller. Set in the 18th century and involving the story of a young African girl who regains her freedom after being sold into slavery, the book also won the Commonwealth Writers' Prize in 2008....

Toronto Star, Mar. 6

Seen Online

Academic libraries foster key skills

[http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/opinion/2008812914_opinc05libraries.html]

ACRL's Betsy Wilson and Erika Linke write: "As students prepare for future careers that will demand top-notch research skills, critical thinking, and a savvy eye for finding information, academic librarians are stepping up to meet those needs. Library professionals are equipping the next generation of engineers, teachers, doctors—and jobs yet to be imagined—with the training and research tools needed to compete in the global marketplace. This is a vital contribution in today's challenging economic times."...

Seattle Times, Mar. 4

Her son, the press secretary

[<http://heraldsun.southernheadlines.com/durham/4-1117209.cfm>]

Nancy Gibbs doesn't get many visits from her son Robert these days. But the head of acquisitions for Duke University Libraries isn't complaining. She knows that her son, Robert L. Gibbs, is an extremely busy man in his job. That job is serving as President Barack Obama's press secretary. She is extremely proud of Robert, whom she first exposed to politics through her work with the League of Women Voters....

Durham (N.C.) Herald-Sun, Mar. 10

Antioch College library labors on

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/10/education/10antioch.html>]

A visit to Antioch College, which closed last summer, is a bit like a Twilight Zone episode—the picturesque Yellow Springs, Ohio, campus has no students or faculty, but it does have a functioning library. The university allots the library a \$300,000 annual budget. Its reduced staff of three keeps up some 1,500 periodical subscriptions and sends books upon request to other Ohio college libraries. Scott Sanders supervises the defunct college's Antiochiana [<http://antiochiana.antioch.edu/>] archives on the library's second floor....

New York Times, Mar. 9

Free Library chief tries to stay focused

[http://www.philly.com/philly/news/20090310_Library_chief_tries_to_stay_focused.html?viewAll=y]

Faced with fallout from her plan to close 11 branches in response to the city's budget crisis, Free Library of Philadelphia Director Siobhan Reardon can't count on her library to offer a peaceful sanctuary. As controversial as the plan has been, Reardon has never shrunk from it. After residents reacted with boisterous demonstrations, angry blogs, and unflattering portrayals in guerrilla street theater, Reardon learned at her peril that Philadelphia is a city of neighborhoods....

Philadelphia Inquirer, Mar. 10

Pennsylvania State Library faces huge cut

[<http://www.philly.com/philly/news/local/40768312.html>]

The State Library of Pennsylvania, founded by Benjamin Franklin 263 years ago, has survived two wars and a catastrophic fire. Now, library advocates fear, its latest threat may be its most dire. In the face of a multibillion-dollar deficit, Gov. Ed Rendell wants to halve the state library budget—from \$4.8 million to \$2.3 million—which could all but wipe out the 56-person staff....

Philadelphia Inquirer, Mar. 5

Hamline branch closing could be delayed

[http://www.twincities.com/allheadlines/ci_11883300]

The Hamline Midway branch of the St. Paul (Minn.) Public Library could stay open through the end of the year and not close in the spring as previously proposed, Mayor Chris Coleman and Library Director Melanie Huggins announced March 10 to a crowd of anxious patrons. As many as 100 adults and children showed up to demand the branch stay open for good....

St. Paul (Minn.) Pioneer Press, Mar. 10

Farmington panel says penguins can stay

[<http://www.farmingtonindependent.com/articles/index.cfm?id=10999§ion=News>]

A book about a same-sex penguin couple and the egg they hatch together will stay on the library shelves at Meadowview Elementary School in Farmington, Minnesota. A resource review panel met March 4 to discuss the book *And Tango Makes Three*, and to take comments from the public. The only residents to show up were Steve and Tammy VanWinkle, who filed a request last month to have the book moved somewhere students couldn't get to it without a parent's permission.... Farmington (Minn.) Independent, Mar. 6

Topeka library board under scrutiny

[http://cjonline.com/stories/030209/loc_400090754.shtml]

Members of Topeka Bible Church are encouraged to volunteer and serve the community. That helps explain why four current or former church members are on the Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library board of trustees, which has generated criticism recently for restricting minors' access to four sex-related books. Meanwhile, the American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression and the Freedom to Read Foundation joined with other groups to send a letter [<http://www.abffe.com/topekalibrary-letter.htm>] March 4 urging the board to restore the books to open shelves.... Topeka (Kans.) Capital-Journal, Mar. 2; American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression

The demise of VHS and films that are disappearing with it

[<http://www.movingimagesource.us/articles/the-vanishing-20090226>]

Anthony Kaufman writes: "Costa-Gavras's 1972 Uruguayan political thriller *State of Siege* is effectively extinct. While it survives in a few used VHS versions and presumably somewhere in 16mm or 35mm film prints, it is among hundreds of important and critically acclaimed films no longer readily accessible for home (or library) viewing. In the wake of video-store shutdowns and the move toward DVD-only subscription services modeled after Netflix and digital downloads, the nondigitized movie is becoming an endangered species."... Moving Image Source, Feb. 26

Library VHS collections are dwindling

[<http://www.dailyherald.com/story/?id=274964>]

Like video rental shops, retail stores, and movie buffs before them, libraries are hitting the eject button on VHS tapes. Public libraries in the Chicago suburbs are among those phasing out VHS collections in favor of more-popular DVDs. Patrons don't seem to mind. Cook Memorial Public Library video customer Josephine Chang said she hadn't even realized the Libertyville library's VHS collection has disappeared.... Arlington Heights (Ill.) Daily Herald, Mar. 2

Sewickley librarian offers inspiration through video

[<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/09064/953130-54.stm>]

Alone in a quiet meeting room, Young Adult Librarian Kelly Rottmund connects a laptop computer to a large flat-screen television at the Sewickley (Pa.) Public Library. The silence is broken as groups of teens and pre-teens enter the room, excited to get started. Rottmund has

created a program, "Movie Stars @ the library," that gives kids a chance to make films after school using the library's video camera....
Pittsburgh (Pa.) Post-Gazette, Mar. 5

Thibodaux librarian helps preserve Cajun culture
[<http://www.dailycomet.com/article/20090309/ARTICLES/903091968>]
If Cajun music is in the air, Anke Tonn is likely there. Tonn, interlibrary loan librarian at Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, Louisiana, can be found dancing the two-step at Tipitina's in New Orleans most Sundays. That is, when she's not dancing at whatever local festival is being held that week. She has also created 12 Zydeco festivals at Nicholls and is the driving force behind the school's Louisiana Swamp Stomp Festival, March 20–21....
Thibodaux (La.) Daily Comet, Mar. 9

Heinrich Böll papers lost in Kön archives collapse
[<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2009/mar/06/heinrich-boll-archive-cologne>]
For the best part of a decade, the heirs of German writer and Nobel Prize laureate Heinrich Böll (1917–1985) worked on hammering out a deal with the city of Köln over the transfer of his private papers to the archives. In February, officials held a special ceremony to mark the historic handover: For €800,000 (\$1.01 million U.S.), the archives took possession of hundreds of boxes of scripts and unpublished works by Germany's most popular postwar writer. But all these have been lost forever after the collapse of the archives building March 3. The theory now is that the collapse was caused by ground water seepage
[<http://www.ksta.de/html/artikel/1233584109702.shtml>] at a nearby construction site. More than 100 books from the medieval chronicles collection have been recovered
[<http://medievalnews.blogspot.com/2009/03/update-on-collapsed-cologne-archives.html>] undamaged so far....
The Guardian (U.K.), Mar. 6; Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Mar. 9; Medieval News, Mar. 8

Students teach lawmakers the value of technology
[<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/?i=57602>]
Students from four Georgia school districts were on Capitol Hill March 4 showing federal lawmakers how technology is being used to enhance teaching and learning in their classrooms—and why federal funding for school technology is important. Sixteen students from four Georgia counties participated in Capitol Hill Tech Day, pulling legislators aside to show them how they can listen to podcasts on iPods to hear lessons they missed when they were absent from school and how interactive whiteboards make class interesting....
eSchool News, Mar. 5

David Smith: NYPL's librarian to the stars
[http://gothamist.com/2009/03/06/dave_smith_nypls_librarian_to_the_s.php]
David Smith has worked at the 42nd Street and Fifth Avenue branch of the New York Public Library for 30 years, starting as a clerk and eventually landing at the General Research Division. Currently he's a supervising librarian (and librarian to the stars
[<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/12/31/arts/31rese.html>]), a vault of information, and a teller of some fascinating stories. Recently he spoke

about giving Werner Herzog an insider's tour of the NYPL, how stacks run all under Bryant Park, and his friend Joey Goldstein (the New Yorker he most admired)....

The Gothamist, Mar. 6; New York Times, Dec. 31, 2007

Some doors a library card can't open

[<http://www.sheboyganpress.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2009903070405>]

A 34-year-old Sheboygan, Wisconsin, man was charged March 6 after allegedly leaving his library card behind while stealing beer from a Plymouth tavern. A bartender called police early February 22 after discovering lights on, a cooler open, and a window screen cut in the basement. She also found Kristopher Lehnhardt's Mead Public Library card on the floor by a door, where it appeared to have been used in an attempt to pick the lock....

Sheboygan (Wis.) Press, Mar. 7

Flood closes Richmond Hill library

[<http://www.theliberal.com/article/88643>]

A flood at the Richmond Hill (Ont.) Central Library has the library closed for approximately two weeks. A leak originated in the building's heating system early on March 1 and spread throughout the library, soaking through the third and second floors down to ground level. Library CEO Jane Horrocks said 28,000–30,000 books suffered water damage and have been put aside for freeze-drying in an attempt to salvage the material....

Richmond Hill (Ont.) Liberal, Mar. 5

Go back to the Top [[#top](#)]

Tech Talk

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[<http://www.apple.com/finalcutstudio/finalcutpro/>][Six best video-editing apps](#) [<http://lifehacker.com/5165944/six-best-video-editing-applications>]
Jason Fitzpatrick writes: "You want to be the supreme ruler of your own virtual cutting room? Better break out the checkbook—your film-chopping powers aren't going to come cheaply. We can't promise cheap and open source, but we can promise that the contenders are—price tags and all—worthy of inclusion. A final note regarding pricing: Many of the video editors can only be purchased as part of a bundle of software."...

Lifehacker, Mar. 8

[<http://www.google.com/google-d-s/intl/en/tour1.html>][Google Docs suffers privacy glitch](#)

[<http://www.techcrunch.com/2009/03/07/huge-google-privacy-blunder-shares-your-docs-without-permission/>]

Jason Kincaid writes: "In a privacy error that underscores some of the biggest problems surrounding cloud-based services, Google has sent a notice to a number of users of its document and spreadsheet products stating that it may have inadvertently shared some of their documents with contacts who were never granted access to them. According to the notice, this sharing was limited to people 'with whom you, or a collaborator with sharing rights, had previously shared a

document’—a vague statement that sounds like it could add up to quite a few people.”...
TechCrunch, Mar. 7

Browsers are changing to accommodate powerful applications
[<http://www.technologyreview.com/web/22265/?a=f>]
Erica Naone writes: “We’ve come a long way from the flat documents that made up the web in its early years. As internet access has expanded and bandwidth has increased, designers and programmers have figured out ways to build sophisticated, interactive applications that run in the browser. Nowadays, these programs include web-based word processors, photo-editing software, money-management tools, and much more. The next generation [<http://dev.w3.org/html5/spec/Overview.html>] of HTML promises to make web applications work even better.”...
Technology Review, Mar. 10

11 nontraditional uses for WordPress
[<http://designm.ag/design/11-non-traditional-uses-of-wordpress/>]
Steven Snell writes: “WordPress is probably the most popular blogging platform, and it can also be used as a CMS to power other types of websites. With some creativity and a growing number of available resources, WordPress seems to be expanding constantly.” This article gives an overview of 11 nontraditional uses for the software, including a membership directory, job board, and email newsletter manager....
Designm.ag, Mar. 1

Five sites for experiencing the web in real time
[http://www.readwriteweb.com/archives/five_sites_that_let_your_experience_the_real-time.php]
Frederic Lardinois writes: “One of the most interesting trends on the internet right now is a move toward a more real-time experience. We have seen a lot of discussion lately about how Twitter is leading the charge by creating a search engine for the real-time web, for example. However, there are also a good number of other services that already expose some of the promises of the real-time web.”...
ReadWriteWeb, Mar. 6

A one-stop spot for vital system stats
[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2341617,00.asp>]
Tim Smith writes: “Windows comes packaged with many tools to show details about the current state of your system. There’s Task Manager for discovering the processes that are using your CPU, Resource Monitor for investigating your disk activity, and Explorer for showing the total usage of all your drives. Wouldn’t it be useful to have these stats all together in one handy, attractive application? What’s Going On? is a PC Magazine system utility that gives you a one-stop spot for all your system’s vital stats.”...
PC Magazine, Feb. 26

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/trucolorsfly/3333353613/in/photostream/>]Drupa
l for n00bs
[<http://www.alatechsource.org/blog/2009/03/a-n00b-goes-camping-drupal-camp-at-darien-library.html>]

Cindi Trainor writes: “Drupal Camp 2009 at Darien Library in Connecticut was my first unconference. Drupal is hard. It has its own vocabulary. But the way I see it, the fact that Drupal has a steep learning curve is no excuse for complacency. After attending Drupal Camp and hearing others talk about how they created modules and sites, I’d recommend these steps to other newbies.” Sarah Houghton-Jan lists
[<http://librarianinblack.typepad.com/librarianinblack/2009/03/recommended-online-drupal-resources.html>] some essential Drupal resources....
ALA TechSource blog, Mar. 9; Librarian in Black, Mar. 4

Digitizing microfilm [<http://www.iiri.com/pdfs/article2.pdf>] (PDF file)
Derek Jenkins writes: “Image processing consists of two phases: real-time (scan-time) enhancements, and post-scanning enhancements. Both are important and must be considered for each job. In many cases, the real-time enhancement delivers an acceptable image, but under some circumstances, a better result would have been obtained if the images were post-processed.”...
Journal of Imaging Services 17, no. 3

Publishing

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10 websites for book lovers
[<http://oedb.org/blogs/ilibrarian/2009/10-websites-for-book-lovers/>]
Ellyssa Kroski writes: “At this point most everyone has heard of LibraryThing, the most popular social cataloging website online, and perhaps even of the Amazon-owned Shelfari, but here are a few websites for book lovers that you may not have heard about—including the Book Cover Archive, [<http://bookcoverarchive.com/>] a collection of over 1,000 book covers categorized and browsable by designers, authors, titles, art directors, photographers, and illustrators.”...
iLibrarian, Mar. 4

’s inspiration and 19 other Indian novels
[http://www.abebooks.com/books/slumdog-millionaire-White-Tiger-authors/indian-novels.shtml?cm_ven=nl&cm_cat=nl&cm_pla=cme-indiannovelsb&cm_ite=text]
Naturally there was a novel behind Slumdog Millionaire, the Oscar-winning film. But Q & A, by Vikas Swarup, the inspiration for Danny Boyle’s acclaimed movie, is just one of the many recent examples of Indian literature to have a worldwide impact. Modern Indian authors and writers of Indian descent have been taking home literary awards for decades. The White Tiger, The Inheritance of Loss, In a Free State, and The God of Small Things all won the Man Booker Prize, and there are many more great novels to read....
Abebooks

On campus, vampires are besting the Beats
[<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/03/05/AR2009030501541.html>]
Ron Charles writes: “In 1969, when Alice Echols went to college, everybody she knew was reading Soul on Ice, Eldridge Cleaver’s new collection of essays. Forty years later, on today’s college campuses, you’re more likely to hear a werewolf howl than Allen Ginsberg, and Nin’s

transgressive sexuality has been replaced by the fervent chastity of Bella Swan, the teenage heroine of Stephenie Meyer's modern gothic Twilight series. It's as though somebody stole Abbie Hoffman's book—and a whole generation of radical lit along with it.”...
Washington Post, Mar. 8

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

Actions & Answers

Senate passes Omnibus Appropriations bill

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2291>]

After several days of squabbling, the Senate approved the FY2009 Omnibus Appropriations bill March 10, which includes nine unfinished appropriations bills from last year. Overall, libraries of all types fared well (PDF file

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/wp-content/uploads/2009/03/fy-2009-request-chart.pdf>]). The bill contains \$171.5 million for the Grants to State Library Agencies program within the LSTA. This is an increase of over \$10 million from last year....

District Dispatch, Mar. 11

Stimulus may come to the rescue of school libraries

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2275>]

With state funding for schools on the decline, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act could not have come at a more critical time for school libraries. ARRA includes \$100 billion for education that can help school libraries ensure that students are prepared to enter a 21st-century workforce, prevent cutbacks and layoffs, and modernize our nation's school libraries....

District Dispatch, Mar. 10

Stimulus includes grants for senior employment

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2225>]

One thing many may not know about the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is that it includes a provision that can help senior citizens find jobs—by working at the local library. The ARRA contains additional funding for the Senior Community Service Employment Program, which provides community service jobs to older Americans at nonprofit and public facilities, including libraries....

District Dispatch, Mar. 10

Schedule for education stimulus funding

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2241>]

Funds under the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) and Title I, Part A, will be available in two stages. Funds from these very large programs are to be delivered by formula from the U.S. Department of Education to the states. The Department of Education will release 50% of Title I, Part

A, before the end of March without requiring new state applications.
Streamlined, user-friendly applications for the initial 67% of the SFSE
will be available to governors by the end of March....
District Dispatch, Mar. 10

Broadband stimulus funding

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2281>]

At a March 10 public meeting, members of the Commerce Department,
Department of Agriculture, and Federal Communications Commission gave an
update on the \$7.2-billion broadband funding provisions of the ARRA. They
reiterated the purpose: to close the broadband gap in America; stimulate
investment; create jobs; ensure that schools, libraries, hospitals, and
other “community anchor institutions” have the connectivity
they need; and encourage overall demand....
District Dispatch, Mar. 10

Folkways Collection podcasts

[http://www.folkways.si.edu/learn_discover/folkways_collection.aspx]

The Smithsonian’s Folkways Collection podcast series splits the
remarkable story of Moses Asch’s label (home to Woody Guthrie,
Leadbelly, and Pete Seeger that was transferred to the Smithsonian after
his death) into 24 one-hour podcasts, each featuring interviews and
original recordings from the Folkways archive of 2,000-plus recordings.
Folk music, children’s music, recordings of frogs, the tragic story
of Phil Ochs, and examples of Allen Ginsberg’s ill-advised forays
into the blues are all included. The series was produced by CKUA Radio
Network in Alberta and originally aired in 1999....
Smithsonian Folkways

Try the FunWorks [<http://www.thefunworks.org/>]

The FunWorks is a nationally acclaimed STEM (science, technology,
engineering, math) career exploration website developed for and by youth
aged 11 to 15. It provides interactive career experiences and makes use
of music and sports to help teens explore potential careers. The site was
produced by the nonprofit Education Development Center with funding from
the National Science Foundation....
The FunWorks

Thinkfinity @ your library [<http://www.pio.ala.org/visibility/?p=332>]

Have you checked out this new front door to explore Thinkfinity.org
[<http://www.thinkfinity.org/AtYourLibrary.aspx>] content yet?
Thinkfinity.org is the Verizon Foundation’s online portal to 55,000
standards-based, grade-specific, K–12 lesson plans and other educational
resources provided with many of the nation’s leading educational
and literacy organizations. Trainers from Thinkfinity.org were on hand
during the ALA Midwinter Meeting, demonstrating how librarians can use
the site....
Visibility @ your library, Mar. 9

Top auction sales of 2008

[http://www.finebooksmagazine.com/issue/200903/top_auction_sales-1.phtml]

Ian McKay and P. Scott Brown write: “John Lennon’s scribbled lyrics
to ‘Give Peace a Chance’ (right) sold for nearly \$1 million last summer,
which prompted a continuing discussion among Fine Books editors about

what should make our list of the top auction sales. If you go by the highest prices paid for all things written, printed books drop down on the list. Take this past year: While three single-sheet fragments of the Qur’an sold for millions, only the first edition of Copernicus’s masterwork broke into seven figures.”...
Fine Books and Collections, Mar.

What drives people to steal rare books
[<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/2/d41a83d6-09dc-11de-add8-0000779fd2ac.html>]
Tim Richardson writes: “Every so often a high-profile example of book theft makes the news. The crime in question does not concern hard-up students helping themselves to textbooks. Rather it details cases of premeditated, often audacious, theft of beautiful and rare books. One day a few years ago, as the only other user present at the Royal Horticultural Society’s Lindley Library in Westminster, I had the dubious privilege of witnessing the arrest of notorious book thief William Jacques, alias Mr. Santoro or David Fletcher and sometimes dubbed the Tome Raider.”...
Financial Times, Mar. 6

discovers the Book [<http://www.penny-arcade.com/comic/2009/3/9/>]
Penny Arcade, a webcomic focused on video games and gaming culture written by Jerry Holkins and illustrated by Mike Krahulik, debuted in 1998. On March 1, it won the category Best Webcomic in the fan-voted Project Fanboy Awards
[http://www.projectfanboy.com/index.php?pageid=pfa_winners] for 2008. In its March 9 strip, “Progress,” it takes on the discovery of an amazing retro format—the Book....
Penny Arcade, Mar. 9

North Carolina to help with job searches
[<http://www.governor.state.nc.us/NewsItems/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?newsItemID=73>]
North Carolina Gov. Bev Perdue has announced a new program, the JobSearch Help Desk, which will train librarians to help patrons connect with employers and conduct job searches at public libraries. Beginning in March, the state library will conduct training sessions for librarians in nine locations. The workshops will focus on use of North Carolina’s statewide electronic database consortium NC LIVE plus print and online tools for skills such as résumé writing, job searching, and interviewing....
North Carolina Governor’s Office, Feb. 13

New York Public Library and today’s economic crisis
[<http://drupal02.nypl.org/blogs/2009/03/03/patience-and-fortitude-new-york-public-library-during-great-depression-and-today>]
Ann Thornton writes: “Three weeks ago, we surveyed participants in public programs and training classes and found that more than one-third of them were unemployed and searching for jobs. In the last four months, we have documented an increase of 38% in unique users searching for and using job information on the library’s website. And from the front lines, staff members are reporting increasing questions from users about job-related topics, from unemployment insurance to résumé writing.”...
Blogging@NYPL, Mar. 3

Public libraries during the Great Depression

[<http://www.desertsailor.info/libs/Depression/Index.php>]

Charles A. Seavey writes: “The expansion of the American public library in the teeth of the Great Depression demonstrates very clearly the importance of the institution to American society. Any institution for which the American populace is willing to tax itself to support occupies an important place in the country. While the growth of the public library was not uniform across the country, it was, nonetheless, a nationwide phenomenon—every state started new libraries. And while some federal money was involved, it was local funds and local initiative that was largely responsible.”...

Based on a paper presented at the IFLA Conference in Glasgow, Aug. 20, 2002

Libraries to start lending money

[<http://newsbiscuit.com/article/libraries-to-start-lending-money-490>]

(satire)

In its latest bid to kick-start the nation’s ailing economy, the government has announced that public libraries will extend their current range of services to include the lending of money. From today, customers borrowing books will also be able to take out financial loans for a period of three weeks, though it may be possible to renew the terms of these agreements provided no other customer is waiting to borrow the cash....

NewsBiscuit, Mar. 3

Using Skype for reference

[<http://libraryvoice.com/archives/2009/03/03/monday-night-update-episode-5/>]

This episode of Chad Boeninger’s Monday Night Update (4:55) discusses and shows how the Ohio University Libraries’ Skype Reference Service works. The video shows the kiosk setup and discusses some of the issues with the service. The Skype kiosk rings a computer at the reference desk through the campus wireless network. Chad says: “It’s a free service and it’s kind of fun to mess with.”...

Library Voice, Mar. 3

Getting it out together

[<http://blogs.lib.berkeley.edu/shimenawa.php/2009/03/01/getting-it-out-together>]

Peter Brantley writes: “We must tell stories for everyone, not just for ourselves. And for libraries, that means staying away from baroque library standards; weird metadata protocols and data exchange standards that no one else uses. It means taking only the best of what we’ve developed, the work that is most flexible and lightweight, such as OpenURL, OAI-PMH, and Dublin Core, and integrating it with RSS and ATOM; OAuth and OpenID; Sitemap and OpenSearch. Anything that is complicated must be left behind.”...

Peter Brantley’s Thoughts and Speculations, Mar. 1

[<http://www.deepdyve.com/>]100 tools to research the deep web

[<http://www.online-college-blog.com/index.php/features/100-useful-tips-and-tools-to-research-the-deep-web/>]

Alisa Miller writes: "Experts say that typical search engines like Yahoo! and Google only pick up about 1% of the information available on the internet. The rest of that information is considered to be hidden in the deep web, also referred to as the invisible web. So how can you find all the rest of this information? This list offers 100 tips and tools to help you get the most out of your searches."...

Online College Blog

Chesapeake Poetry Festival

[<http://www.ilovelibraries.org/news/topstories/chesapeake.cfm>]

Jean Carideo writes: "For the last 16 years, Russell Memorial Library has been the home of the Chesapeake (Va.) Poetry Festival. The first festival, held in 1993, was the result of a casual conversation between Norfolk attorney C. Edward Russell Jr. and Chesapeake Public Library Director Margaret Stillman. The idea began when Russell was taking a class in poetry at Virginia Commonwealth University taught by his longtime friend and Poet Laureate of Portsmouth Dave Smith (above)."...

Virginia Libraries 54, no. 3-4

Get your news from the library

[<http://www.douglascountylibraries.org/AboutUs/LaRuesViews/2009/031209>]

Douglas County (Colo.) Librarian Jamie LaRue writes: "Frankly, I'm worried about this trend: A lot of newspapers are in trouble, and that does not bode well for the well-researched, investigative journalism upon which an informed citizenry depends. More often than not, the content of blogs is opinion, not news. That leads me to a radical solution. If the business model of for-profit newspapers is broken, then maybe what we need them to do is merge with an obvious partner: the public library."...

LaRue's Views, Mar. 12

UCLA acquires Aldous Huxley archive

[<http://newsroom.ucla.edu/portal/ucla/aldous-huxley-collection-84102.aspx>]

The UCLA Library has acquired the literary archive of the visionary novelist and essayist Aldous Huxley (1894-1963). The collection contains literary materials he created subsequent to a devastating 1961 fire that destroyed his Los Angeles home and much of his earlier archive; correspondence, photographs, and audiotapes; and typescripts and galley proofs retrieved from publishers after his death. Also included are the papers of his wife, Laura Huxley (1911-2007), an author and lay therapist, who chose UCLA as the home for the Aldous and Laura Huxley Collection shortly before her death....

University of California, Los Angeles, Mar. 6

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UtalS3VdIo>] Peter Mulvey live at Kalamazoo Public Library [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UtalS3VdIo>]
Singer-songwriter Peter Mulvey entertained (9:46) a crowd of more than 150 at a special February 18 concert at the Kalamazoo (Mich.) Public Library. Mulvey is the ninth musician featured in KPL's popular Live Music concert series [<http://www.kpl.gov/music/live.aspx>]. The show featured Mulvey's signature guitar style, humorous storytelling, and beautiful songs. Part 2 [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qxrct4Vio2c>] (10:40) is also online....

YouTube, Feb. 26

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIcIDjujmus>]The Adventures of Stella Kos, Special Librarian, 2109 [<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIcIDjujmus>] Cathy Carr, Kent State University library student and SLA Student Chapter member, contributed this video (2:00) for the Special Libraries Association Centennial video contest. Kos unravels the mystery of why the Chicago Cubs have never won the World Series since 1908. Watch other SLA centennial videos here [http://www.youtube.com/groups_videos?name=sla100].... YouTube, Feb. 23

Go back to the Top [[#top](#)]

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[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/index.cfm>]

ALA Annual Conference,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/faq.cfm>]
Chicago, July 9–15. Plan your trip now by consulting the Preliminary Conference Program, now available online (PDF file [http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/2009_prelimprogram_FINAL.pdf]).

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2496>]

Enriching and supplementing storytelling programs with fingerplays, flannelboards, and other props will be a cinch thanks to Storytime Magic, [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2496>] a generous sampling of 400 art and craft ideas, songs, and action rhymes by Kathy MacMillan and Christine Kirker. NEW! From ALA Editions.

In this issue
March 2009

[<http://site.ebrary.com/lib/ala/home.action>]

Libraries and civic engagement

The return of Salinas Public Library

Amalgamating for advocacy

Midwinter Meeting conversations

Career Leads from
[<http://joblist.ala.org/>]

U.S. Government Information and Law Librarian.
[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=12823>] The University of California, Santa Barbara, is seeking candidates for a temporary, two-year position. The successful candidate must be innovative, creative, energetic, self-motivated, and service-oriented. The librarian has responsibility for reference and research consultation, including electronic reference, teaching in the library's instruction program, and collection development and management for United States government information and law. The librarian serves as the liaison to the U.S. Government Printing Office Federal Depository Library Program. Responsible for the development and maintenance of printed and electronic guides to library resources for the two disciplines....

@ More jobs [<http://joblist.ala.org/>]...

Digital Library of the Week

[<http://www.seattle.gov/CityArchives/Exhibits/WTO/photo2.htm>]

Seattle Municipal Archives.
[<http://www.seattle.gov/CityArchives/Exhibits/ddl.htm>] Seattle's digital-document libraries are a resource for teachers and students of Washington State history. They contain digital representations of primary-source documents on such topics as the Great Seattle Fire of 1889, the 1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, unemployment and the WPA, and the World Trade Organization protests. Although the geographic focus is Seattle, the topics reflect events at the state and national levels. Both documents and images are included in the archives.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this AL Direct feature? Tell us about it. [<mailto:aldirect@ala.org>] Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the I Love Libraries [<http://www.ilovelibraries.ala.org/diglibweekly/>] site.

Public Perception How the World Sees Us

"I didn't even know we had a library. I wondered if that is something that should be included in the budget."

—Steve Doerhoefer, at a Sharpsburg, Georgia, council meeting, asking about \$2,450 in the town's budget for the volunteer-staffed library's supplies and materials, Newnan (Ga.) Times-Herald, Jan. 6.

[<http://www.twitter.com/amlibraries>]

AL on Twitter? Follow American Libraries news stories, videos, and blog posts on Twitter. [<http://www.twitter.com/amlibraries>]

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/publications/crlnews/2009/mar/March.cfm>]

In the March 2009 issue of College and Research Libraries News, Peter Hernon and Robert E. Dugan discuss assessment and evaluation [<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/publications/crlnews/2009/mar/assessment.cfm>] and provide useful working definitions of the terms as they relate to measuring student outcomes.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. I recently lost my position at a community college library and have been looking for other library positions. I haven't been in the job market for some time. What resources are available for finding a new library position?

A. See ALA's Jobseeking

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/educationcareers/employment/index.cfm>] page—which includes a link to ALA's own job postings. You can create an account on ALA's JobLIST [<http://joblist.ala.org>] website, which provides not only a search through job postings, but also a tips and tricks

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm>] page that offers assistance and advice, including job hunting strategies

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/JobHunting.cfm>] and help for

résumé's [<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/Resumes.cfm>] and cover letters.

[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/CoverLetters.cfm>] A

résumé-critiquing service is one of the conference workshops

[http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/Conference_Workshops.cfm] set for the ALA Annual Conference on July 9–16, in Chicago. Find out more at the conference placement service

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/hrdr/placementservice/currentconference.cfm>] page from ALA's Office for Human Resource Development and Recruitment, which also provides a Guide to Employment Sources in the Library and Information Profession.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/educationcareers/employment/resources/employmentguide05.cfm>] From the ALA Professional Tips wiki

[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Finding_A_Library_Job].

@ The ALA Librarian [mailto:AskTheLibrarian@ala.org] welcomes your questions.

[<http://www.spaceneedle.com/view/webcam.html>]

This is the view ACRL National Conference attendees [<http://www.acrl.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/events/seattle/virtual/virtual09.cfm>] will have this weekend if they visit the top of the Seattle Space Needle. [<http://www.spaceneedle.com/view/webcam.html>] Check out more photos in VR Seattle. [http://www.vrseattle.com/pages/browse.php?cat_id=60]

Calendar

Mar. 17:
Open Access and Libraries,
[<http://unabashedlibrarian.com/open-access-2009>] Columbia University, New York City.

Mar. 19–21:
American Association of Law Librarians Management Institute,
[http://www.aallnet.org/prodev/event_institute2009.asp] Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay. “Manage with Confidence.”

Mar. 26–27:
Collection Development / Resource Sharing Conference,
[<http://www.lib.fsu.edu/events/resourcesharing>] Florida State University Alumni Center, Tallahassee.

Mar 20:
Chicagoland Drupal4Lib, [<http://chicagolibrarian.com/node/344>] DePaul University Loop Campus, Chicago.

Apr. 3–5:
Expanding Literacy Studies,
[<http://literacystudies.osu.edu/initiatives/conference/yr2008/intconference/default.cfm>] Ohio State University, Columbus.

Apr. 7:
Queens Library, Flushing Branch.
[http://www.queenslibrary.org/index.aspx?page_nm=Professional_Program]
“Innovation in Libraries by The Shanachies.” Erik Boekesteijn and Jaap van de Geer (The Shanachies) are worldwide-recognized specialists in gaming, libraries, and innovation. Admission is free, but RSVPs [mailto:lgarciafebo@queenslibrary.org] are essential.

Apr. 15–18: Museums and the Web, [<http://www.archimuse.com/mw2009/>]
Hyatt Regency Indianapolis.

Apr. 21:
International Workshop on Peer-to-Peer Systems,
[<http://www.usenix.org/event/iptps09/>] The Boston Park Plaza Hotel and
Towers, Boston.

Apr. 23–25:
American Society for Indexing,
[<http://www.asindexing.org/site/mtgs.shtml>] Annual Conference,
Doubletree–Lloyd Center Hotel, Portland, Oregon. “Scaling the
Heights.”

May 6–7:
Amigos Library Services Member Conference,
[<http://conference.amigos.org/>] Crowne Plaza Hotel North Dallas-Addison,
Texas. “Navigating the Now.”

Aug. 5–7:
Pacific Northwest Library Association,
[<http://www.pnla.org/events/conference09/index1.html>] Annual Conference,
Missoula, Montana. “A Century of Cooperation, a Legacy of
Leadership.”

Aug. 8:
African-American Genealogical Research,
[<http://www.archives.gov/great-lakes/public/programs/calendar.html>]
National Archives and Records Administration-Great Lakes Region, Chicago.

June 22–23:
British Chapter of the International Society for Knowledge Organization,
[<http://www.iskouk.org/conf2009/>] University College London.
“Content Architecture: Exploiting and Managing Diverse
Resources.”

Oct. 1–4:
National Diversity in Libraries Conference,
[<http://www.bcr.org/ARSL/index.html>] Marriott Louisville Downtown,
Kentucky, “Spectrum of the Future.”

Oct. 21–23:
Ohio Educational Library Media Association Conference,
[<http://www.oelma.org/conference/2009/default.asp>] Columbus Convention
Center, Columbus, Ohio. “Educating 21st-Century Leaders.”

@ More [<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/calendar/calendar.cfm>]...

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American Libraries Direct

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american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | March 18, 2009

Contents

[U.S. & World News](#)
[ALA News](#)
[Booklist Online](#)
[Division News](#)
[Awards](#)
[Seen Online](#)
[Tech Talk](#)
[Publishing](#)
[Actions & Answers](#)
[Calendar](#)

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U.S. & World News

[Amazon lets publishers silence Kindle audio](#)

Amazon released version 2 of its Kindle e-book reader February 24 to fanfare over improvements over the previous incarnation and controversy over a feature that converts text to spoken words. Three days later, it reined in the conversion feature by enabling publishers to opt out of the application. Protest of the text-to-speech feature came from the 9,000-member Authors Guild, and on February 27 Amazon [announced](#) that it would allow publishers to disable the feature on a title-by-title basis....

American Libraries Online, Mar. 12

[Protection urged for Gaza cultural heritage](#)

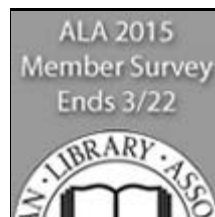
Word is spreading about the February 18 statement ([PDF file](#)) of the International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS) deploring the loss of human lives and the destruction of cultural heritage that has recently taken place in the Palestinian Territories and the State of Israel, in particular in the Gaza area. All five member groups of ICBS have disseminated the statement; additionally, the International Council of Museums issued an [assessment](#) of damage to museums in Gaza....

American Libraries Online, Mar. 16

ALA News

[ALA members can shape strategic plan](#)

ALA members still have a few more days to evaluate and shape ALA's strategic plan by participating in the 2015 [member survey](#), which closes March 22. "This is one of the most important things an ALA member can do this year," said ALA President Jim Rettig. Members should complete the survey by logging in with their seven-digit member number found on their membership card as well as on the *American Libraries* mailing label....



[Polls are open for ALA election](#)

Polls opened March 17 for the ALA annual election. Candidates are running for ALA president, ALA Council members-at-large, and divisions/sections and round tables. Beginning at 9 a.m. Central time March 17, broadcast emails announcing polls' opening were sent. The



[ALA Annual Conference.](#)

Chicago, July 9–15. Be sure to check out the [free concerts](#) in Grant Park during the conference.



[Coraline](#). Neil Gaiman's international bestselling children's novel about a curious young girl who explores her new house and finds herself in a spine-tingling alternate universe, is the subject of this poste. The animated film

last email will be sent by 9 a.m., March 19. If you have not received your email ballot by March 20, please send an email to membership@ala.org. The polls close at 11:59 p.m. Central time on April 24....

FY2009 Omnibus increases funding for libraries

ALA calls the FY2009 Omnibus Appropriations bill, which recently passed the Senate and was signed into law by President Obama, a victory for libraries. The \$410-billion spending bill, which includes the nine unfinished appropriations bills from last year, contains \$171.5 million for the Grants to State Library Agencies program within the Library Services and Technology Act. This funding level is an increase of more than \$10 million from last year....

Resources for promoting new Woman's Day initiative

Woman's Day magazine is partnering with ALA's Campaign for America's Libraries to promote the library as a key resource during tough economic times. Libraries interested in promoting this initiative are encouraged to [download](#) promotional materials. New materials include a flyer and a new icon to link to the *Woman's Day* [website](#) or ALA's website for the public, lovelibraries.org. Through May 18, *Woman's Day* is asking readers to share their stories....



ALA presidential candidates Q&A

ALA presidential candidates Kenton Oliver and Roberta Stevens respond to members' questions with videos posted on YouTube and [AL Focus](#). Members such as Tom Peters (right) posed questions to the candidates via YouTube in early 2009. Peters asked about conference participation. Stevens and Oliver offered their responses in a "firewire chat" format....



version of the story, released in theaters February 6, features an all-star cast of voices including Dakota Fanning, Teri Hatcher, John Hodgman, and Ian McShane. The poster is available with special thanks to Neil Gaiman, Universal Pictures, and Laika Entertainment. **New!**
From ALA Graphics.

In this issue

March 2009



Libraries and civic engagement

The return of Salinas Public Library

Amalgamating for advocacy

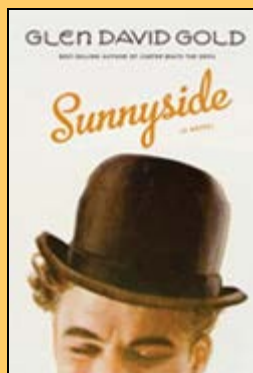
Midwinter Meeting conversations

Booklist ONLINE

Featured Review: Adult Books

Glen David Gold. *Sunnyside*. May 2009. 576p. Knopf, hardcover (978-0-307-27068-9).

The phenomenal success of Gold's first book, *Carter Beats the Devil* (2001), a historical novel about the magician Charles Carter, makes it a hard act to follow. But Gold, fascinated by showmanship, illusion, celebrity, and notoriety, had an equally alluring subject up his sleeve: Charlie Chaplin and the enchantment of early Hollywood. This brimming saga begins with a bang in 1916 and never lets up, as masterful storyteller Gold imagines Chaplin's horror over being condemned as a slacker because he isn't in uniform while the world is at war, his dread of his mother, an infatuation with a schoolgirl, and the longing to kill off the beloved Little Tramp in his produced-under-pressure



Career Leads from

ALA JobLIST

Library Management Systems Administrator.

Farmington (N.M.) Public Library. This position works under the general supervision

1919 film *Sunnyside*. Chaplin's ludicrous escapades are cleverly entwined with those of a family of grifters, a handsome rube whose love for dogs sustains him during his disastrous service in France, an aesthete ensnared in a military fiasco in Russia, and Secretary of the Treasury William McAdoo's corralling of Chaplin, Mary Pickford, and Douglas Fairbanks....

[Review of the Day: March 18](#)

Artie Lange (author), Artie Lange (reader). *Too Fat to Fish*. Jan. 2009. 8hr. Books on Tape, CD (978-1-4159-6058-5).

Artie Lange is a troubled man. Fans who listen to him as part of the talent on *The Howard Stern Show* have known this for a long time, as his battles with liquor and heroin have become part of the fabric of the radio program. But no one—Stern fans, Lange's closest friends, nor even Stern himself—could have guessed the depth of his psychosis. In this revealing memoir, Lange shares his most intimate memories, thoughts, and fears in his signature raspy, boozy tones and with ironic good humor. Lange starts off reciting his own story, but during a candid moment that he thought wouldn't make it into the final production, he tells listeners why he is bowing out (a heroin relapse) and hands the microphone to a few buddies....



@ Visit [Booklist Online](#) for other reviews and much more....

Division News

[AL reports from ACRL in Seattle](#)

George Eberhart writes: "The first keynote speaker at ACRL 2009 was to be Canadian journalist and economic activist Naomi Klein, the award-winning author of *Shock Doctrine* and *No Logo*. Unfortunately, Klein had to cancel all of her appearances for the next month due to a personal illness, so ethicist Rushworth M. Kidder (right), founder of the Institute for Global Ethics in 1990 and the author of *Moral Courage* and *How Good People Make Tough Choices*, stepped in." Eberhart also reported on poet, novelist, and filmmaker Sherman Alexie's [keynote address](#); the [greening](#) of ACRL; cofounder and former CEO of the car-sharing company Zipcar Robin Chase's [talk](#); a [panel discussion](#) on user experience; and radio-show host Ira Glass's [closing address](#)....

AL Inside Scoop, Mar. 12-16



[ALSC Kids! Cool Cash Contest winners](#)

ALSC has awarded \$100 in Cool Cash to 10 libraries. ALSC asked librarians to share how they used Kids! @ your library campaign tool kit materials to promote their libraries to children and their families....

[James Patterson named SLMM spokesperson](#)

of the library director, performs a variety of skilled and complex technical work in the procurement, installation, programming, maintaining, and security for servers, staff computers, public computers, and the library automation system within the Farmington's main library and branches. The position supervises Computer Support Supervisor and Computer Support Technicians. A bachelor's degree in computer science or related field is preferred, as well as three years' experience administering library automation systems, network administration, or any satisfactory combination of education and experience that demonstrates the required knowledge and skills....

@ [More jobs...](#)

Digital Library of the Week



[The Postcard Library](#)

celebrates the rich history of United States libraries through postcards. The collection, most of which belongs to University of Wisconsin-Madison

James Patterson will be the spokesperson for School Library Media Month (SLMM). SLMM is AASL's annual celebration of school library media specialists and their programs and is celebrated the entire month of April. Patterson is the author of the critically acclaimed "Maximum Ride" series, an ALA 2005 Teens Top Ten pick....



[PLA offers budget and finance workshop](#)

PLA is offering public librarians an opportunity to learn practical skills and knowledge that will help them better manage their libraries' budgeting process. The Budget and Finance workshop, taught by Sandra Nelson, is scheduled for May 13–14 in Columbus, Ohio, and features an intensive, small-group environment. For the full course description, registration rates, instructor biographies, and to register, visit [here](#)....

[RUSA, ALCTS offer collection development programs](#)

Six programs sponsored by RUSA and ALCTS offer information on future trends in collection development, selection techniques for specific genres of literature or segments of library patrons, and basic collection-development skills. Librarians in all types of libraries will benefit from the ideas and solutions offered by these programs. Program participation is free for all ALA Annual Conference registrants....

[Recruit a new YALSA member, win a Flip camera](#)

Encourage a friend or colleague to join YALSA and both of you could win a Flip Video Ultra camera. All current YALSA members who recruit a new member to YALSA will be entered into a drawing to win a free Flip Video Ultra camcorder for themselves and their new recruits. The member drive ends March 23. To enter, visit the 2009 Member Drive [website](#)....



[YALSA half-day preconference to focus on career development](#)

Library school students, new librarians, or seasoned professionals looking to advance their careers can find professional inspiration at Moving Up the YA Career Ladder, a half-day preconference offered July 10 at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago by YALSA. This half-day preconference will take place 12:30–4:30 p.m. Tickets are \$129. [Registration](#) for ALA Annual Conference is not required to attend the preconference....

[YALSA's full-day preconference to focus on teen reading](#)

Join YALSA at Genre Galaxy, its full-day preconference on July 10 at the ALA's Annual Conference in Chicago, and discover how to connect to teen library users with books. Authors scheduled to appear include Holly Black, Cecil Castellucci, David Lubar, and Dom Testa. This full-day preconference takes place July 10, 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m. Tickets are \$195 for YALSA members, \$235 for ALA members, \$285 for nonmembers, and \$195 for student and retired members. Lunch is included. [Registration](#) for ALA Annual Conference is not required to

library school faculty member Sharon McQueen, has been built over many years with the help of friends, antique shops, flea markets, and eBay. The website is intended to draw interest to the rich and diverse history of libraries in the United States and serve as a catalyst for further exploration. The site is constantly expanding, and the designers are exploring ways to support their work toward adding metadata records to the images.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it.](#) Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the [Love Libraries](#) site.

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

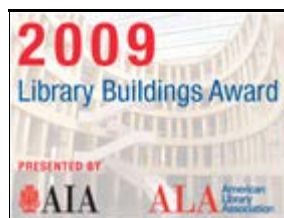
"We have been observing librarians for a long time now, and if we know anything at all, it is that no one suffers more than the librarian when trouble befalls a library. As a child, we once saw a librarian break the physical restraints of a burly volunteer fireman to race back into a tiny community library where billows of mysterious black smoke had forced an evacuation of the building. She

attend the YALSA preconference....

Awards

[2009 AIA/ALA Library Building Awards](#)

LLAMA and the American Institute of Architects have awarded eight recipients with the 2009 AIA/ALA Library Building Awards. Biennially, representatives from AIA and ALA gather to celebrate the finest examples of library design by licensed architects in the United States. The 2009 AIA/ALA Library Building Awards honor eight separate projects, and are featured in *American Libraries*' April 2009 issue....



[Thinkfinity.org showcases Pura Belpré winners](#)

The Pura Belpré book awards, which are named after the first Latina librarian at the New York Public Library, are being [highlighted](#) on Thinkfinity.org. The awards are presented annually to a Latino/Latina writer and illustrator whose work best portrays, affirms, and celebrates the Latino cultural experience in literature for children and youth. The 2009 Belpré awards, which were announced in January at the 2009 ALA Midwinter Meeting, will be presented at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago to Margarita Engle, author of *The Surrender Tree: Poems of Cuba's Struggle for Freedom*, and Yuyi Morales, illustrator of *Just in Case*....



[Judaica Reference and Bibliography](#) (PDF file)

The Research Libraries, Archives, and Special Collections Division (RAS) of the Association of Jewish Libraries has awarded the 2008 AJL Judaica Reference and Bibliography Awards. The Reference award goes to Gershon David Hundert for his *YIVO Encyclopedia of Jews in Eastern Europe*. The Bibliography award goes to Binyamin Richler, Malachi Beit-Arie, and Nurit Pasternak for *Hebrew Manuscripts in the Vatican Library: Catalogue*....

Association of Jewish Libraries, Mar. 16

Seen Online

[Pearland library to reopen after Ike](#)

On March 16, the Pearland (Tex.) Library, a branch of the Brazoria County (Tex.) Library System, reopened after being closed since Hurricane Ike September 13. During Ike, water leaked through the roof, causing damage to the building and collection. Officials had to move the 100,000 books inside to other libraries around the country while the repairs were made....

KHOU-TV, Houston, Mar. 16



[Shakespeare portrait painted from life discovered](#)

The only surviving portrait of William Shakespeare painted from life has been discovered hanging in an Irish country house, experts claimed. For perhaps 300 years the oil painting has been passed

staggered out a few minutes later, sooty and disheveled, with an armload of Sir Walter Scott's novels and poetry clutched to her ample bosom."

Editorial, "The Life and Hard Times of a Library," *Denton (Tex.) Record-Chronicle*, Mar. 10.



AL on Twitter? Follow *American Libraries* news stories, videos, and blog posts on [Twitter](#).



[Know your Stimulus.](#)

Throughout the Obama Administration's process of creating the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the library community demonstrated a steadfast commitment to the American public by working to inform our leaders in Washington about the programs and services libraries across the country are providing to help America get back to work. The ALA Washington Office has compiled a list of the programs that libraries can benefit from....

Calendar

Apr. 4:
[Library 2.0](#)

down through the Cobbe family, aristocrats who can trace their heritage back to Shakespeare's only known literary patron, Henry Wriothesley, the 3rd Earl of Southampton. The sitter's identity had always been a mystery....

The Times (U.K.) , Mar. 10

[Children's books are classic reading](#)

Parents read them to their children, forming a powerful bond. Years later, those former children read these children's picture books to their children, and the thread between generations is extended yet again. The making of a classic is a strange alchemy of skill—a good story, strong illustrations—and luck. But it's not easy to appeal to all three audiences: publishers, parents, and—oh, yes—children....

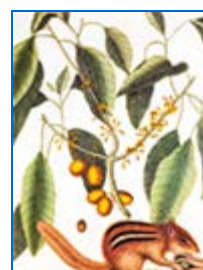
CNN, Mar. 12



[USC library receives rare first edition](#)

Philanthropist Susan Gibbes Robinson has given a rare first edition of Mark Catesby's 18th-century work *The Natural History of Carolina, Florida, and the Bahama Islands* to the University of South Carolina Libraries. The two massive leather-bound volumes, published in London in 1731 and 1743, contain the works of the British naturalist during his four-year odyssey through the wilds of South Carolina....

Spartanburg (S.C.) Herald-Journal, Mar. 16



[British Library misplaces 9,000 books](#)

More than 9,000 books are missing from the British Library, including Renaissance treatises on theology and alchemy, a medieval text on astronomy, first editions of 19th- and 20th-century novels, and a luxury edition of *Mein Kampf* produced in 1939 to celebrate Hitler's 50th birthday. The library believes almost all have not been stolen but rather misshelved—although some have not been seen in well over half a century. One item, an essay titled "Of the Lawful and Unlawful Usurie Amongest Christians," by 16th-century German theologian Wolfgang Musculus, is valued by the library at £20,000 (\$28,000)

The (U.K.) Guardian, Mar. 17

[Service cuts, layoffs in New York](#)

Faced with hard times and city budget cuts, the three library systems in New York City are gearing up to impose major layoffs and reductions in branch hours and other services. The New York Public Library, the Queens Library, and the Brooklyn Library all face cuts totalling \$51.1 million.

Councilman Vincent Gentile (D-Brooklyn) called the consequences of the looming cuts "almost incomprehensible."...

New York Daily News, Mar. 18



[UC won't budge in librarian salary talks](#)

The American Federation of Teachers, on behalf of University of California librarians, has reached an impasse with the university after a two-year struggle for salary increases that the university claims it cannot afford. Confidential discussions with a state-appointed mediator are slated for March 24, an attempt to end a drawn-out negotiation process that began in 2007. UC librarians, who demand that their salaries be raised to an amount slightly less than those

[Symposium](#), Yale Law School, New Haven, Connecticut.

Apr. 7:

[Innovation in Libraries by the Shanachies](#), Queens Library, Flushing, New York.

Apr. 8:

[Increasing E-Resource Use through Improved User Access](#), Webinar, sponsored by NISO Knowledge Base and Related Tools Working Group and OpenURL.

Apr. 26–29:

[Academic Library Advancement and Development Network](#), Annual Conference, Williamsburg Lodge, Williamsburg, Virginia.

May 27–29:

[Digital Directions](#), The Westin San Diego, sponsored by Northeast Document Conservation Center. "Fundamentals of Creating and Managing Digital Collections."

June 23–24:

[Second International m-Libraries Conference](#), University of British Columbia, Vancouver.

Aug. 8:

[African-American Genealogical Research](#), National Archives and Records Administration—Great Lakes Region, Chicago.

Sept. 11–13:

[Association for Rural and Small Libraries](#), Conference,

offered at California State University campuses, claim the university has failed to take the negotiations seriously....

The UC San Diego Guardian, Mar. 12

[**Donated library remains closed**](#)

Voters in Gilmanton, New Hampshire, rejected spending \$75,000 to hire a part-time librarian and assistant March 14, leaving their brand-new library closed for the foreseeable future. By a vote of 224–125, residents turned down a plan to give the \$1.2-million library—which was built on donated goods, money, and labor—enough funds to hire staff. Gilmanton is now the only town in the state that lacks a year-round library....

Concord (N.H.) Monitor, Mar. 15



[**Washoe County libraries targeted for budget cuts**](#)

Washoe County (Nev.) libraries and parks budgets could be cut by as much as 36% under a tiered approach adopted by the county commission on March 13 as a starting point in closing a \$47-million gap in its 2009–10 budget. In making the cuts, Commissioner John Breternitz said he wants to minimize the suffering of residents who are going through hard times as well. Arnold Maurins, county library director, said losing \$4 million from an \$11.2-million budget would mean reduced hours, branch closures, and possibly, significant layoffs....

Reno (Nev.) Gazette-Journal, Mar. 14

[**How many librarians equal one firefighter?**](#)

With the city facing dramatic budget cuts, the Austin (Tex.) Fire Department—like Lassie at the mine shaft—raced to the rescue. As City Manager Marc Ott finalized his plan for \$20 million in reductions at the City Council meeting, he announced that planned service cuts to branch libraries would no longer be necessary. Instead, the cost would be largely offset by a \$200,000 reduction in firefighter overtime; the library would save another \$80,000 by using temporary employees in unfilled positions. The specter of additional library closures was widely unpopular, and AFD was under some pressure for not announcing any cuts previously....

Austin (Tex.) Chronicle, Mar. 6

[**Gaiman talks with Colbert**](#)

Newbery Award–winner Neil Gaiman [appeared](#) on *The Colbert Report* March 16 (5:31). In the February 4 edition of the satirical talk show, the comic books–friendly Colbert brought his considerable wit to bear on Gaiman during a segment called “[Who’s Not Honoring Me Now?](#)” Colbert feigned offense that Gaiman’s novel *The Graveyard Book* was honored with ALA’s Newbery Medal. “An 18-month-old escapes the murder of his family by stumbling ahead of an assassin into an old graveyard,” Colbert reported on the book. “Bravo, Newbery! Sounds like a fantastic children’s book. Hey, I’ve got a great children’s book, too! It’s called *F—k It, We’re All Gonna Die!*”...

MTV Splash Page, Mar. 16



[**Library assistant Googled child porn at work**](#)

A Brisbane, Australia, man used his job as a public library assistant to scour the internet for child pornography, a court has heard. David Harold Wegert, 55, typed “boys stripped naked” into search engine Google on a library computer twice on January 23 and February 14

Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

@ [More...](#)

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American Libraries
Direct



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ext. 4216

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2008, police inquiries revealed. At Brisbane's District Court March 17, Crown prosecutor Petrina Clohessy said Wegert would print out the search results and take them home "to use for sexual fantasies."...

Brisbane (Australia) Times, Mar. 17

[Wyoming launches old-news database](#)

The Wyoming State Library is making the state's old newspapers available online. [The Wyoming Newspaper Project](#) launched its online archive March 16. It has a searchable database of about 340 different newspapers dating from 1849 to 1922. The website contains 407,000 full newspaper pages, and the state library is working to expand the database to incorporate about 960,000 pages total....

Associated Press, Mar. 16



[University of Aberdeen receives \\$3 million](#)

American philanthropist Loretta Brennan Glucksman is making a personal gift of \$3 million toward a purpose-designed specialist conservation studio adjacent to the new University of Aberdeen library. The Scottish university is the custodian of extensive collections of historic books, manuscripts, maps, and other items....

University of Aberdeen, Mar. 16

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[Hash tags as a social networking fad](#)

Jason Mick writes: "One interesting fad that has popped up on Twitter and that is catching the eye of engineers at other network and applications makers for sites like Facebook is the hash tag. Hash tags—basically a group of words, an acronym, or another descriptor preceded by a pound sign—are giving people a unique way to connect and are fast becoming a hot social networking trend. An example of one such Twitter tag is the [#job](#) tag placed by people looking to hire people or looking for a job themselves."...

Daily Tech, Mar. 12



[Beginner's guide to IA](#)

Andrew Maier writes: "Information architect is an often misunderstood job title. Are they designers? Developers? Managers? All of the above? In this article we'll discuss what information architecture is, why it's related to usability, and what are the common tools and software applications used in information architecture. Along the way we'll share some of the tweeters, books, and resources we've found useful for budding information architects. Even if you're familiar with the discipline already, you can probably pick up something you've missed."...

UX Booth, Mar. 10

[Users fight back against viruses, spyware](#)

StopBadware.org and Consumer Reports WebWatch have launched [BadwareBusters.org](#), a new online community for people looking for help preventing and countering viruses, spyware, and other "badware" on



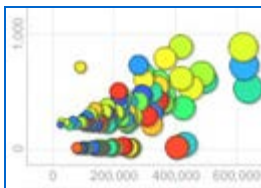
their computers and websites. Until now, the internet has lacked a central place where people with no prior knowledge about badware and its effects could go to ask questions and get assistance on the topic. BadwareBusters.org aims to fill that gap by attracting a community consisting of everyone from computer novices to technology experts....

Berkman Center for Internet and Society, Mar. 17

[Six unique Twitter visualizations](#)

Ben Parr writes: "[Twitter](#), the ultimate collection of 140-character thoughts and data, does not come with image sharing, video embedding, or almost any other visual feature. However, it does come with an API, and hundreds of people are developing Twitter applications all the time. When reading the Twitter stream becomes stale or repetitive, try using some useful and fun Twitter applications that visualize trends, map out locations, or just please the senses."...

Mashable, Mar. 16



Publishing

[As print newspapers fold, Pelosi steps in](#)

On February 27, Denver's *Rocky Mountain News* announced it was [shutting down](#). With backing from three entrepreneurs, staffers of the paper [plan](#) to start an online news publication if they can get 50,000 paying subscribers by April 23—what would have been the *News*' 150th anniversary. On March 16, the Hearst Corporation [announced](#) it would stop publishing the 146-year-old *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, ceasing delivery to 117,600 subscribers. With hopes of saving the suffering medium, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) urged ([PDF file](#)) U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder March 16 to consider giving newspapers more leeway to merge or consolidate business operations in order to stay afloat, striking a balance between antitrust laws and First Amendment rights....

Associated Press, Mar. 17; *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, Mar. 17; *San Francisco Chronicle*, Mar. 17

[Discovery sues Amazon.com over patent](#)

Discovery Communications says the Kindle electronic book readers from Amazon.com. violate a patent that Discovery registered in 2007. Discovery sued Amazon in Delaware on March 17. Discovery, which runs the Discovery Channel and Animal Planet cable TV networks, said Amazon was "willful" in infringing the patent, which covers the security of electronic book files....

Washington Post, Mar. 18



[Irish publisher ends bid to sell Houghton](#)

[Mifflin](#) (subscription required)

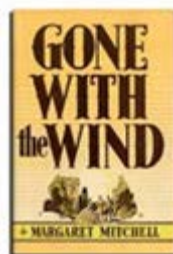
Education Media and Publishing Group Ltd., one of the largest textbook publishers in the world, has decided not to sell its Houghton Mifflin Harcourt trade-publishing division after failing to get its asking price. Barry O'Callaghan, chairman and CEO of Education Media, said there were three interested potential buyers but that he was unwilling to strike a deal that he felt didn't represent the full value of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt....

Wall Street Journal, Mar. 13

[Irish-American women writers](#)

Kerri Wallace writes: "Because of St. Patrick's Day, March is usually the time when I reflect upon my Irish heritage and honor my ancestors' history. Since March is also [Women's History Month](#), I thought I would highlight some of my favorite female American Irish writers who inspire others to write and love great literature."...

New York Public Library Blog, Mar. 4, 17



Actions & Answers

[The World Wide Web turns 20](#)

The modern day internet, better known as the "World Wide Web," turned 20 years old March 13, as many marked the anniversary. Its inception dates back to March 13, 1989, when computer scientist Sir Tim Berners-Lee (right) at the European Organisation for Nuclear Research, popularly known as CERN Laboratory, presented a paper containing means and methods by which particle physicists could easily share and find out essential electronics documents....

IT Pro Portal, Mar. 13



[Oregon State Library joins print-on-demand program](#)

The Oregon State Library is participating in BCR's Shelf2Life program, bringing its collections of pre-1923 United States-published monographs in the fields of genealogy and family history to the public through a print-on-demand program available through hundreds of online book retailers....

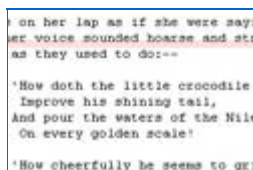
BCR, Mar. 12



[Mark your place on lengthy web documents](#)

Jason Fitzpatrick writes: "Page Scroll is an old-fashioned but practical [Greasemonkey](#) script for Firefox that keeps your place when you read long web pages. Whenever you scroll up or down with the scrollbar, mouse scroll wheel, or using the page keys, a pink band is placed across the top or bottom of the screen, depending on the direction in which you scroll. The bar marks the edge of the visible text and gives you a visual placeholder so you don't waste time scanning for the last line you read."...

Lifehacker, Mar. 11



[Seven things you should know about P2P](#)

Ellyssa Kroski writes: "If you're curious about how peer-to-peer file sharing works, who's using it, and why it may be useful for educators, check out *7 Things You Should Know About P2P* ([PDF file](#)). As with its previous '7 Things' guides, Educause addresses seven questions about this technology."...

iLibrarian, Mar. 16

Put Google Reader in any tab

Josh Lowensohn writes: "If you like [Google Reader](#) but would prefer to keep it from taking up an oh-so-important tab in your browser, you'll definitely like [GReader Popup](#). This Firefox extension pulls up Google Reader on top of any page you have open. You can plow through feeds using all the usual keyboard shortcuts you would in Google Reader. Then, when done, you simply click the icon in the bottom right-hand corner of your browser and it goes away."...

Webware, Mar. 13



How to delete accounts from popular websites

Eric Griffith writes: "Sure, you once thought you and Facebook or MySpace would be together forever, but eventually terms of service change, end-user license agreements mature, and, well, you're just not in the same place anymore. When you want to be rid of an online account, you'll find most sites don't feel obliged to make it *too* easy for you. So we've cut to the chase as much as possible to give you the links, the tips, and in the worst cases, the fax and phone numbers you will need to sever ties."...

PC Magazine, Mar. 7

A way out of email overload

Erica Naone writes: "Despite all our best efforts, most of us are still drowning in email. [OtherInbox](#), a web service launched this weekend at the [South by Southwest Interactive](#) conference in Austin, Texas, promises to rescue email-swamped users from this problem. The messages that the new service handles usually aren't spam. Instead, they're legitimate communications from trusted companies that sometimes contain useful information."...

Technology Review, Mar. 17



[Go back to the Top](#)

AL Direct, March 18, 2009

Having trouble viewing this HTML e-mail (or seeing it in full)? Click here [[%= util.viewHtmlLink %>\].](#)

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | March 11, 2009

Contents

U.S. & World News [[#usworld](#)]
ALA News [[#alanews](#)]
Booklist Online [[#booklist](#)]
Division News [[#divisionnews](#)]
Awards [[#awards](#)]
Seen Online [[#seenonline](#)]
Tech Talk [[#techtalk](#)]
Publishing [[#publishing](#)]
Actions & Answers [[#actionsanswers](#)]
Calendar [[#datebook](#)]

[<http://www.schoolrooms.net>]

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

Amazon lets publishers silence Kindle audio

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/march2009/kindleaudioflak.cfm>]

Amazon released version 2 of its Kindle e-book reader February 24 to fanfare over improvements over the previous incarnation and controversy over a feature that converts text to spoken words. Three days later, it reined in the conversion feature by enabling publishers to opt out of the application. Protest of the text-to-speech feature came from the 9,000-member Authors Guild, and on February 27 Amazon announced [<http://phx.corporate-ir.net/phoenix.zhtml?c=176060&p=irol-newsArticle&ID=1261092&highlight=>] that it would allow publishers to disable the feature on a title-by-title basis...

American Libraries Online, Mar. 12

Protection urged for Gaza cultural heritage

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/march2009/gazalibsdamage.cfm>]

Word is spreading about the February 18 statement (PDF file

[<http://www.ifla.org/VI/4/admin/icbs-gaza-statement18-02-2009.pdf>]) of the International Committee of the Blue Shield (ICBS) deploring the loss of human lives and the destruction of cultural heritage that has recently taken place in the Palestinian Territories and the State of Israel, in particular in the Gaza area. All five member groups of ICBS (the International Council on Archives, International Council of Museums, International Council on Monuments and Sites, International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, and the Coordinating Council of Audiovisual Archives Associations) have disseminated the statement; additionally, the International Council of Museums issued an assessment [http://icom.museum/disaster_relief/gaza.html] of damage to museums in Gaza....

American Libraries Online, Mar. 16

ALA News

ALA members can shape strategic plan

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/alasurveyextension.cfm>]

ALA members still have a few more days to evaluate and shape ALA's strategic plan by participating in the 2015 member survey

[<http://www.ala.org/2015survey>], which closes March 22. "This is one of the most important things an ALA member can do this year," said ALA President Jim Rettig. Members should complete the survey by logging in with their seven-digit member number found on their membership card as well as on the American Libraries mailing label....

Polls are open for ALA election

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/alapollsopen.cfm>]

Polls opened March 17 for the ALA annual election. Candidates are running for ALA president, ALA Council members-at-large, and divisions/sections and round tables. Beginning at 9 a.m. Central time March 17, broadcast emails announcing polls' opening were sent. The last email will be sent by 9 a.m. March 19. If you have not received your email ballot by March 20, please send an email to membership@ala.org [<mailto:membership@ala.org>]. The polls close at 11:59 p.m. Central time on April 24....

FY2009 Omnibus increases funding for libraries

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/woomnibus.cfm>]

ALA calls the FY2009 Omnibus Appropriations bill, which recently passed the Senate and was signed into law by President Obama, a victory for libraries. The \$410-billion spending bill, which includes the nine unfinished appropriations bills from last year, contains \$171.5 million for the Grants to State Library Agencies program within the Library Services and Technology Act. This funding level is an increase of more than \$10 million from last year....

initiative

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/campaignwdnewmats.cfm>]

Woman's Day magazine is partnering with ALA's Campaign for America's Libraries to promote the library as a key resource during tough economic times. Libraries interested in promoting this initiative are encouraged to download [<http://www.ala.org/womansday>] promotional materials. New materials include a flyer and a new icon to link to the Woman's Day website [<http://www.womansday.com/ala>] or ALA's website for the public, ilovelibraries.org [<http://ilovelibraries.org>]. Through May 18, Woman's Day is asking readers to share their stories....

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ROvALzmv_8M&feature=PlayList&p=778215C3D4893125&index=0]ALA presidentialcandidates Q&A

[http://www.youtube.com/view_play_list?p=778215C3D4893125]

ALA presidential candidates Kenton Oliver and Roberta Stevens respond to members' questions with videos posted on YouTube and AL Focus [<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=12874>]. Members such as Tom Peters (right) posed questions to the candidates via YouTube in early 2009. Peters asked about conference participation. Stevens and Oliver offered their responses in a "firewire chat" format....

Featured Review: Adult Books

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3398784]

Glen David Gold. Sunnyside. May 2009. 576p. Knopf, hardcover (978-0-307-27068-9). The phenomenal success of Gold's first book, *Carter Beats the Devil*

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=1099789]

(2001), a historical novel about the magician Charles Carter, makes it a hard act to follow. But Gold, fascinated by showmanship, illusion, celebrity, and notoriety, had an equally alluring subject up his sleeve: Charlie Chaplin and the enchantment of early Hollywood. This brimming saga begins with a bang in 1916 and never lets up, as masterful storyteller Gold imagines Chaplin's horror over being condemned as a slacker because he isn't in uniform while the world is at war, his dread of his mother, an infatuation with a schoolgirl, and the longing to kill off the beloved Little Tramp in his produced-under-pressure 1919 film *Sunnyside*. Chaplin's ludicrous escapades are cleverly entwined with those of a family of grifters, a handsome rube whose love for dogs sustains him during his disastrous service in France, an aesthete ensnared in a military fiasco in Russia, and Secretary of the Treasury William McAdoo's corralling of Chaplin, Mary Pickford, and Douglas Fairbanks....

Review of the Day: March 18

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3332847]

Artie Lange (author), Artie Lange (reader). *Too Fat to Fish*. Jan. 2009. 8hr. Books on Tape, CD (978-1-4159-6058-5). Artie Lange is a troubled

man. Fans who listen to him as part of the talent on The Howard Stern Show have known this for a long time, as his battles with liquor and heroin have become part of the fabric of the radio program. But no one—Stern fans, Lange’s closest friends, nor even Stern himself—could have guessed the depth of his psychosis. In this revealing memoir, Lange shares his most intimate memories, thoughts, and fears in his signature raspy, boozy tones and with ironic good humor. Lange starts off reciting his own story, but during a candid moment that he thought wouldn’t make it into the final production, he tells listeners why he is bowing out (a heroin relapse) and hands the microphone to a few buddies....

@ Visit Booklist Online [<http://www.booklistonline.com/>] for other reviews and much more....

Division News

=====

reports from ACRL in Seattle

[<http://www.al.ala.org/insidescoop/2009/03/12/klein-declines-but-kidder-gets-serious/>]

George Eberhart writes: “The first keynote speaker at ACRL 2009 was to be Canadian journalist and economic activist Naomi Klein, the award-winning author of *Shock Doctrine* and *No Logo*. Unfortunately, Klein had to cancel all of her appearances for the next month due to a personal illness, so ethicist Rushworth M. Kidder (right), founder of the Institute for Global Ethics in 1990 and the author of *Moral Courage* and *How Good People Make Tough Choices*, stepped in.” Eberhart also reported on poet, novelist, and filmmaker Sherman Alexie’s keynote address

[<http://www.al.ala.org/insidescoop/2009/03/14/confessions-of-an-ambiguously-ethnic-indian/>]; the greening

[<http://www.al.ala.org/insidescoop/2009/03/15/the-greening-of-acrl/>] of ACRL; cofounder and former CEO of the car-sharing company Zipcar Robin Chase’s talk

[<http://www.al.ala.org/insidescoop/2009/03/15/fabulosity-in-the-room/>]; a panel discussion

[<http://www.al.ala.org/insidescoop/2009/03/16/acrls-first-fish-toss/>] on user experience; and radio-show host Ira Glass’s closing address

[<http://www.al.ala.org/insidescoop/2009/03/16/ira-glass-and-the-structure-of-storytelling/>]....

AL Inside Scoop, Mar. 12

ALSC Kids! Cool Cash Contest winners

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/alsckidscoolcash.cfm>]

ALSC has awarded \$100 in Cool Cash to each of the following organizations: The Public Library of Charlotte—Mecklenburg County, N.C.; Foster Elementary School, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Dayton (Ohio) Metro Library, E. C. Doren Branch; Cuyahoga County Public Library, Parma South Branch, Parma, Ohio; Johnson County Public Library, Franklin Branch,

Franklin, Indiana; Office of Library and Information Services, State of Rhode Island, Providence; Pamunkey Regional Library, Hanover, Virginia; Maricopa County Library District, Phoenix, Arizona; H. Leslie Perry Memorial Library, Henderson, North Carolina; and Hearst Library, Lead, South Dakota. ALSC asked librarians to share how they used Kids! @ your library campaign tool kit materials to promote their libraries to children and their families....

James Patterson named SLMM spokesperson

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/aaslpatterson.cfm>]

AASL has announced that James Patterson will be the spokesperson for School Library Media Month (SLMM). SLMM is AASL's annual celebration of school library media specialists and their programs and is celebrated the entire month of April. Patterson has been the best-selling author in America for the past three years and is the author of the critically acclaimed "Maximum Ride" series, an ALA 2005 Teens Top Ten pick....

PLA offers budget and finance workshop

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/plabudgetworkshop.cfm>]

PLA is offering public librarians an opportunity to learn practical skills and knowledge that will help them better manage their libraries' budgeting process. The Budget and Finance workshop, taught by Sandra Nelson, is scheduled for May 13-14 in Columbus, Ohio, and features an intensive, small-group environment. For the full course description, registration rates, instructor biographies, and to register, visit [here](http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/)

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/>]....

RUSA, ALCTS offer collection development programs

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/rusaalctsplethora.cfm>]

Six programs sponsored by RUSA and ALCTS offer information on future trends in collection development, selection techniques for specific genres of literature or segments of library patrons, and basic collection-development skills. Librarians in all types of libraries will benefit from the ideas and solutions offered by these programs. Program participation is free for all ALA Annual Conference registrants....

Recruit a new YALSA member, win a Flip camera

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/yalsafli.cfm>]

Encourage a friend or colleague to join YALSA and both of you could win a Flip Video Ultra camera. All current YALSA members who recruit a new member to YALSA will be entered into a drawing to win a free Flip Video Ultra camcorder for themselves and their new recruits. The member drive ends March 23. To enter, visit the 2009 Member Drive website

[<http://www.ala.org/drive2009>]....

YALSA half-day preconference to focus on career development

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/yalsahalfdaypreconf.cfm>]

Library school students, new librarians, or seasoned professionals looking to advance their careers can find professional inspiration at Moving Up the YA Career Ladder, a half-day preconference offered July 10 at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago by YALSA. This half-day preconference will take place 12:30–4: 30 p.m. Tickets are \$129.

Registration

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/Preconferences.cfm#YALSA>] for ALA Annual Conference is not required to attend the preconference....

YALSA's full-day preconference to focus on teen reading

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/yalsaannualpreconf.cfm>]

Join YALSA at Genre Galaxy, its full-day preconference on July 10 at the ALA's Annual Conference in Chicago, and discover how to connect to teen library users with books. Authors scheduled to appear include Holly Black, Cecil Castellucci, David Lubar, and Dom Testa. This full-day preconference takes place July 10, 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m. Tickets are \$195 for YALSA members, \$235 for ALA members, \$285 for nonmembers, and \$195 for student and retired members. Lunch is included. Registration

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/Preconferences.cfm#YALSA>] for ALA Annual Conference is not required to attend the YALSA preconference....

Awards

2009 AIA/ALA Library Building Awards

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/llamaaiawinners.cfm>]

LLAMA and the American Institute of Architects have awarded eight recipients with the 2009 AIA/ALA Library Building Awards. Biennially, representatives from AIA and ALA gather to celebrate the finest examples of library design by licensed architects in the United States. The 2009 AIA/ALA Library Building Awards honor eight separate projects, and are featured in American Libraries's April 2009 issue....

Thinkfinity.org showcases Pura Belpré winners

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/thinkfinitybelpre.cfm>]

The Pura Belpré book awards, which are named after the first Latina librarian at the New York Public Library, are being highlighted on Thinkfinity.org [<http://thinkfinity.org>]. The awards are presented annually to a Latino/Latina writer and illustrator whose work best portrays, affirms, and celebrates the Latino cultural experience in children's literature for children and youth. The 2009 Belpré awards, which were announced in January at the 2009 ALA Midwinter Meeting, will be presented at the ALA Annual Conference in Chicago to Margarita Engle, author of *The Surrender Tree: Poems of Cuba's Struggle for Freedom* and Yuyi Morales, illustrator of *Just in Case*....

Judaica Reference and Bibliography (PDF file

[http://www.jewishlibraries.org/ajlweb/awards/ref_bib_awards/2008ref_bib_awards.pdf])

The Research Libraries, Archives, and Special Collections Division (RAS) of the Association of Jewish Libraries is pleased to announce the winners of the 2008 AJL Judaica Reference and Bibliography Awards. The Reference award goes to Gershon David Hundert for his YIVO Encyclopedia of Jews in Eastern Europe. The Bibliography award goes to Binyamin Richler, Malachi Beit-Arie', and Nurit Pasternak for Hebrew Manuscripts in the Vatican Library: Catalogue.

Association of Jewish Libraries, Mar. 16

Seen Online

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[<http://bcls.lib.tx.us/branches/pea/pearland.asp>]Pearland library to

reopen after Ike

[http://www.khou.com/news/local/stories/khou090316_tnt_pearland-library.3ea4b4b3.html]

On March 16, the Pearland (Tex.) Library reopened after being closed since Hurricane Ike six months ago. During Ike, water leaked through the roof, causing damage to the building and collection. Officials had to move the 100,000 books inside to other libraries around the country while the repairs were made....

KHOU, Mar. 16

Shakespeare portrait painted from life discovered

[http://entertainment.timesonline.co.uk/tol/arts_and_entertainment/visual_arts/article5877560.ece]

The only surviving portrait of William Shakespeare painted from life has been discovered hanging in an Irish country house, experts claimed. For perhaps 300 years the oil painting has been passed down through the Cobbe family, aristocrats who can trace their heritage back to Shakespeare's only known literary patron, Henry Wriothesley, the 3rd Earl of Southampton. The sitter's identity had always been a mystery....

London Times, Mar. 10

Children's books are classic reading

[<http://edition.cnn.com/2009/SHOWBIZ/books/03/12/childrens.books/>]

Parents read them to their children, forming a powerful bond. Years later, those former children read these children's picture books to their children, and the thread between generations is extended yet again. The making of a classic is a strange alchemy of skill—a good story, strong illustrations—and luck. But it's not easy to appeal to all three audiences: publishers, parents and—oh, yes—children....

CNN, Mar. 12

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Catesby]USC library receives rare first edition

[<http://www.goupstate.com/article/20090316/ARTICLES/903160966>]

Philanthropist Susan Gibbes Robinson has given a rare first edition of Mark Catesby's 18th-century work The Natural History of Carolina, Florida, and the Bahama Islands to the University of South Carolina Libraries. The two massive leather-bound volumes, published in London in 1731 and 1743, contain the works of the British naturalist during his four-year odyssey through the wilds of South Carolina....
Spartanburg (S.C.) Herald-Journal, Mar. 16

British Library misplaces 9,000 books
[<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2009/mar/17/british-library-books-mein-kampf>]
More than 9,000 books are missing from the British Library, including Renaissance treatises on theology and alchemy, a medieval text on astronomy, first editions of 19th- and 20th-century novels, and a luxury edition of Mein Kampf produced in 1939 to celebrate Hitler's 50th birthday. The library believes almost all have not been stolen but rather misshelved—although some have not been seen in well over half a century. One item, an essay titled "Of the Lawful and Unlawful Usurie Amongst Christians," by 16th-century German theologian Wolfgang Musculus, is valued by the library at \$28,000....
The (U K.) Guardian, Mar. 17

Service cuts, layoffs in New York
[http://www.nydailynews.com/ny_local/2009/03/17/2009-03-17_economy_sets_stage_for_service_cuts_layo.html]
Faced with hard times and city budget cuts, the three library systems in New York City are gearing up to impose major layoffs and reductions in branch hours and other services. The New York Public Library, the Queens Library, and the Brooklyn Library all face cuts totalling \$51.1 million. Councilman Vincent Gentile (D-Brooklyn) called the consequences of the looming cuts "almost incomprehensible."
New York Daily News, Mar. 18

UC won't budge in librarian salary talks
[http://www.ucsdguardian.org/news/university_won_t_budge_in_librarian_salary_talks-1.1605995]
The American Federation of Teachers, on behalf of University of California librarians, has reached an impasse with the university after a two-year struggle for salary increases that the university claims it cannot afford. Confidential discussions with a state-appointed mediator are slated for March 24, an attempt to end a drawn-out negotiation process that began in 2007. UC librarians, who demand that their salaries be raised to an amount slightly less than those offered at California State University campuses, claim the university has failed to take the negotiations seriously.
The UC (San Diego) Guardian, Mar. 12

Donated library remains closed
[<http://www.concordmonitor.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090315/NEWS01/903150420>]
Voters in Gilmanton, New Hampshire, rejected spending \$75,000 to hire a part-time librarian and assistant March 14, leaving their brand-new library closed for the foreseeable future. By a vote of 224–125, residents turned down a plan to give the \$1.2-million library—which was built on donated goods, money, and labor—enough funds to hire

staff. Gilmanton is now the only town in the state that lacks a year-round library....

Concord (N.H.) Monitor, Mar. 15

Washoe County libraries targeted for budget cuts

[<http://m.rgj.com/news.jsp?key=176647&rc=ne>]

Washoe County (Nev.) libraries and parks budgets could be cut by as much as 36% under a tiered approach adopted by the county commission on March 13 as a starting point in closing a \$47-million gap in its 2009–10 budget. In making the cuts, Commissioner John Breternitz said he wants to minimize the suffering of residents who are going through hard times as well. Arnold Maurins, county library director, said losing \$4 million from an \$11.2-million budget would mean reduced hours, branch closures, and possibly, significant layoffs....

Reno (Nev.) Gazette-Journal, Mar. 14

How many librarians equal one firefighter?

[<http://www.austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/Issue/story?oid=oid%3A751799>]

With the city facing dramatic budget cuts, the Austin Fire

Department—like Lassie at the mine shaft—raced to the rescue last week. As City Manager Marc Ott finalized his plan for \$20 million in reductions at the City Council meeting, he announced that planned service cuts to branch libraries would no longer be necessary. Instead, the cost would be largely offset by a \$200,000 reduction in firefighter overtime; the library would save another \$80,000 by using temporary employees in unfilled positions. The specter of additional library closures was widely unpopular, and AFD was under some pressure for not announcing any cuts previously....

Austin (Tex.) Chronicle, Mar. 6

[<http://www.colbertnation.com/the-colbert-report-videos/221843/march-16-2009/neil-gaiman>]

Gaiman talks with Colbert

[<http://splashpage.mtv.com/2009/03/16/neil-gaiman-meets-stephen-colbert-on-tonights-colbert-report/>]

Newbery Award—winner Neil Gaiman appeared

[<http://www.colbertnation.com/the-colbert-report-videos/221843/march-16-2009/neil-gaiman>] on The Colbert Report March 16 (5:31). In a February

edition of the satirical talk show, the comic books—friendly

Colbert brought his considerable wit to bear on Gaiman during a segment called “Who’s Not Honoring Me Now?”

[<http://www.colbertnation.com/the-colbert-report-videos/217928/february-04-2009/who-s-not-honoring-me-now---the-newberry-awards>]

“Colbert feigned offense that Gaiman’s novel The Graveyard Book was honored with ALA’s Newbery Medal. ‘An 18-month-old escapes the murder of his family by stumbling ahead of an assassin into an old graveyard,’ Colbert reported on the book. ‘Bravo, Newbery!

Sounds like a fantastic children’s book. Hey, I’ve got a great children’s book, too! It’s called F—k It,

We’re All Gonna Die!’... ”

MTV Splash Page, Mar. 16

Library assistant Googled child porn at work

[<http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/news/queensland/librarian-googled-child-porn-at-work/2009/03/17/1237054794379.html>]

A Brisbane, Australia, man used his job as a public library assistant to scour the internet for child pornography, a court has heard. David Harold Wegert, 55, typed "boys stripped naked" into search engine Google on a library computer twice on January 23 and February 14 last year, police inquiries revealed. At Brisbane's District Court today, Crown prosecutor Petrina Clohessy said Wegert would print out the search results and take them home "to use for sexual fantasies."

Brisbane (Australia) Times, Mar. 17

Wyoming launches old-news database

[http://www.editorandpublisher.com/eandp/departments/online/article_display.jsp?vnu_content_id=1003951912]

The Wyoming State Library is making the state's old newspapers available online. The Wyoming Newspaper Project

[<http://www.wyonewspapers.org/>] launched its online archive March 16. It has a searchable database of about 340 different newspapers dating from 1849 to 1922. The website contains 407,000 full newspaper pages, and the state library is working to expand the database to incorporate about 960,000 pages total....

Editor and Publisher, Mar. 16

University of Aberdeen receives \$3 million

[<http://www.abdn.ac.uk/mediareleases/release.php?id=1739>]

American philanthropist Loretta Brennan Glucksman is making the personal gift of \$3 million toward a purpose-designed specialist conservation studio adjacent to the new university library. The Scottish university is the custodian of extensive collections of historic books, manuscripts, maps, and other items....

University of Aberdeen, Mar. 16

Go back to the Top [#top]

Tech Talk

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[<http://twitter.com/hashtags>]Hash tags as a social networking fad

[<http://www.dailytech.com/article.aspx?newsid=14557>]

Jason Mick writes: "One interesting fad that has popped up on Twitter and that is catching the eye of engineers at other network and applications makers for sites like Facebook is the hash tag. Hash tags—basically a group of words, an acronym, or another descriptor preceded by a pound sign—are giving people a unique way to connect and are fast becoming a hot social networking trend. An example of one such Twitter tag is the #job [<http://hashtags.org/tag/job>] tag placed by people looking to hire people or looking for a job themselves..."

Daily Tech, Mar. 12

Beginner's guide to IA

[<http://www.uxbooth.com/blog/complete-beginners-guide-to-information-architecture/>]

Andrew Maier writes: "Information architecture is an often misunderstood job title. Are they designers? Developers? Managers? All of

the above? In this article we'll discuss what information architecture is, why it's related to usability, and what are the common tools and software applications used in information architecture. Along the way we'll share some of the tweeters, books, and resources we've found useful for budding information architects. Even if you're familiar with the discipline already, you can probably pick up something you've missed.”...
UX Booth, Mar. 10

Users fight back against viruses, spyware
[<http://cyber.law.harvard.edu/newsroom/BadwareBusters>]
StopBadware.org and Consumer Reports WebWatch have launched BadwareBusters.org [<http://badwarebusters.org>], a new online community for people looking for help preventing and countering viruses, spyware, and other “badware” on their computers and websites. Until now, the internet has lacked a central place where people with no prior knowledge about badware and its effects could go to ask questions and get assistance on the topic. BadwareBusters.org aims to fill that gap by attracting a community consisting of everyone from computer novices to technology experts....
Berkman Center for Internet and Society, Mar. 17

[<http://yvoschaap.com/twitterthoughts/>]Six unique Twitter visualizations
[<http://mashable.com/2009/03/16/twitter-visualizations/>]
Ben Parr writes: “Twitter [<http://www.twitter.com>], the ultimate collection of 140-character thoughts and data, does not come with image sharing, video embedding, or almost any other visual feature. However, it does come with an API, and hundreds of people are developing Twitter applications all the time. When reading the Twitter stream becomes stale or repetitive, try using some useful and fun Twitter applications that visualize trends, map out locations, or just please the senses.”...
Mashable, Mar. 16

Publishing

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As print newspapers fold, Pelosi steps in
[<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2009/03/16/MNIA16GCBO.DTL>]
On February 27, Denver's Rocky Mountain News announced it was shutting down
[<http://www.rockymountainnews.com/news/2009/feb/27/goodbye-colorado/>].
With backing from three entrepreneurs, staffers of the paper plan [<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jUKFN5dgQ9zftjAOZ8ajWiedUkPgD96VC4080>] to start an online news publication if they can get 50,000 paying subscribers by April 23—what would have been the News's 150th anniversary. On March 16, the Hearst Corp announced [http://www.seattlepi.com/business/403793_piclosure17.html] it would stop publishing the 146-year-old Seattle Post-Intelligencer, ceasing delivery

to 117,600 subscribers. With hopes of saving the suffering medium, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) urged (PDF file [http://dig.abclocal.go.com/kg/PDF/Pelosi-Letter.pdf]) U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder March 16 to consider giving newspapers more leeway to merge or consolidate business operations in order to stay afloat, striking a balance between antitrust laws and First Amendment rights.... Associated Press, Mar. 17; Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Mar. 17; San Francisco Chronicle, Mar. 17

Discovery sues Amazon.com over patent [http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/T/TEC_AMAZON_KINDLE_PATENT_SUIT?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT&CTIME=2009-03-17-13-24-35] Discovery Communications says the Kindle electronic book readers from Amazon.com. violate a patent that Discovery registered in 2007. Discovery sued Amazon in Delaware on March 17. Discovery, which runs the Discovery Channel and Animal Planet cable TV networks, said Amazon was “willful” in infringing the patent, which covers the security of electronic book files.... Associated Press, Mar. 17

Irish publisher ends bid to sell Houghton Mifflin [http://online.wsj.com/article/SB123687481581108967.html] Education Media and Publishing Group Ltd., one of the largest textbook publishers in the world, has decided not to sell its Houghton Mifflin Harcourt trade-publishing division after failing to get its asking price. Barry O’Callaghan, chairman and CEO of Education Media, said there were three interested potential buyers but that he was unwilling to strike a deal that he felt didn’t represent the full value of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.... Wall Street Journal, Mar. 13

American Irish women writers [http://drupal02.nypl.org/blogs/2009/03/16/noteworthy-american-irish-women-writers] Kerri Wallace writes: “Because of St. Patrick’s Day, March is usually the time when I reflect upon my Irish heritage and honor my ancestors’ history. Since March is also Women’s History Month [http://nypl.org/blogs/2009/03/04/march-womens-history-month], I thought I would highlight some of my favorite female American Irish writers [http://leopac4.nypl.org/ipac20/ipac.jsp?session=1S37K3785134J.92778&profile=dial--3&source=%7E%21dial&view=subscriptionssummary&uri=full=1100001%7E%211202423%7E%214&ri=37&aspect=basic&menu=search&ipp=20&spp=20&staffonly=&term=american+irish&index=GW&uindex=&aspect=basic&menu=search&ri=37&limitbox_1=FOR01+%3D+BK+AND+CAL01+%21%3D+LIB%3F+AND+GMD01+%21%3D+%3FELECTRONIC%3F#focus] who inspire others to write and love great literature.”... New York Public Library Blog, Mar. 17

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[http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com]

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[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Tim_Berners-Lee.jpg]The World Wide Web turns 20

[<http://www.itproportal.com/portal/news/article/2009/3/13/world-wide-web-20-years-old-today/>]

The modern day internet, better known as the "World Wide Web," turned 20 years old March 13, as many marked the anniversary. Its inception dates back to March 13, 1989, when computer scientist Sir Tim Berners-Lee (right) at the European Organisation for Nuclear Research, popularly known as CERN Laboratory, presented a paper containing means and methods by which particle physics scientists could easily share and find out essential electronics documents....

IT Pro Portal, Mar. 13

[<http://www.oregon.gov/OSL/>]Oregon State Library joins print-on-demand program [http://bcr.org/about/newsreleases/2009/osl_sl_3-11-09.html]

The Oregon State Library is participating in BCR's Shelf2Life program, bringing its collections of pre-1923 United States-published monographs in the fields of genealogy and family history to the public through a print-on-demand program available through hundreds of online book retailers.

BCR, Mar. 12

[<http://userscripts.org/scripts/show/38805>]Mark your place on lengthy web documents

[<http://lifehacker.com/5168227/page-scroll-marks-your-place-on-lengthy-documents>]

Jason Fitzpatrick writes: "Page Scroll is an old-fashioned but practical Greasemonkey

[<https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/748>] script for Firefox that keeps your place when you read long web pages. Whenever you scroll up or down with the scrollbar, mouse scroll wheel, or using the page keys, a pink band is placed across the top or bottom of the screen, depending on the direction in which you scroll. The bar marks the edge of the visible text and gives you a visual placeholder so you don't waste time scanning for the last line you read."

Lifehacker, Mar. 11

Seven things you should know about P2P

[<http://oedb.org/blogs/ilibrarian/2009/7-things-you-should-know-about-p2p/>]

Ellyssa Kroski writes: "If you're curious about how peer-to-peer file sharing works, who's using it, and why it may be useful for educators, check out 7 Things You Should Know About P2P (PDF file [<http://net.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/EST0901.pdf>]). As with its previous "7 Things" guides, Educause addresses seven questions about this technology."

iLibrarian, Mar. 16

Put Google Reader in any tab

[http://news.cnet.com/8301-17939_109-10196233-2.html?part=rss&tag=feed&subj=Webware]

Josh Lowensohn writes: "If you like Google Reader [<http://reader.google.com>] but would prefer to keep it from taking up an oh-so-important tab in your browser, you'll definitely like GReader Popup [<https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/11072>]. This Firefox extension pulls up Google Reader on top of any page you have open. You can plow through feeds using all the usual keyboard shortcuts you would in Google Reader. Then, when done, you simply click the icon in the bottom right-hand corner of your browser and it goes away."... Webware, Mar. 13

How to delete accounts from popular websites [<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0%2C2817%2C2342599%2C00.asp>]
Eric Griffith writes: "Sure, you once thought you and Facebook or MySpace would be together forever, but eventually terms of service change, end-user license agreements mature, and, well, you're just not in the same place anymore. When you want to be rid of an online account, you'll find most sites don't feel obliged to make it too easy for you. So we've cut to the chase as much as possible to give you the links, the tips, and in the worst cases, the fax and phone numbers you will need to sever ties."... PC Magazine, Mar. 7

[<http://otherinbox.com/>]A way out of email overload [<http://www.technologyreview.com/communications/22301/>]
Erica Naone writes: "Despite all our best efforts, most of us are still drowning in email. OtherInbox [<http://otherinbox.com/>], a web service launched this weekend at the South by Southwest Interactive [<http://sxsw.com/>] conference in Austin, Texas, promises to rescue email-swamped users from this problem. The messages that the new service handles usually aren't spam. Instead, they're legitimate communications from trusted companies that sometimes contain useful information."... Technology Review, Mar. 17

Go back to the Top [[#top](#)]

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[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/index.cfm>]

ALA Annual Conference,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/faq.cfm>]
Chicago, July 9–15. Be sure to check out the free concerts [<http://www.grantparkmusicfestival.com/member.shtml>] in Grant Park during the conference.

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2496>]

Coraline, Neil Gaiman's international bestselling children's novel about a curious young girl who explores her new house and finds herself in a spine-tingling alternate universe, is the subject of this new poster from ALA Graphics. The animated film version of the story, released in theaters February 6, features an all-star cast of voices including Dakota Fanning, Teri Hatcher, John Hodgman, and Ian McShane. The poster is available with special thanks to Neil Gaiman, Universal Pictures, and LAIKA Entertainment....

NEW! From ALA Graphics.

In this issue
March 2009

[<http://site.ebrary.com/lib/ala/home.action>]

Libraries and civic engagement

The return of Salinas Public Library

Amalgamating for advocacy

Midwinter Meeting conversations

Career Leads from
[<http://joblist.ala.org/>]

Library Management Systems Administrator,
[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=12874>] Farmington (N.M.) Public Library. This position works under the general supervision of the library director, performs a variety of skilled and complex technical work in the procurement, installation, programming, maintaining, and security for servers, staff computers, public computers, and the library automation system within the Farmington's main library and branches. The position supervises Computer Support Supervisor and Computer Support Technicians. A bachelor's degree in computer science or related field is preferred, as well as three years' experience administering library automation systems, network administration, or any satisfactory combination of education and experience that demonstrates the required knowledge and skills....

@ More jobs [<http://joblist.ala.org/>]...

Digital Library of the Week

[<http://www.seattle.gov/CityArchives/Exhibits/WTO/photo2.htm>]

The Postcard Library [<http://libraryhistory.org/index.html>] celebrates the rich history of United States Libraries through postcards. The collection, most of which belongs to University of Wisconsin-Madison library school faculty member Sharon McQueen, has been built over many years with the help of friends, antique shops, flea markets, and eBay. The website is intended to draw interest to the rich and diverse history of libraries in the United States and serve as a catalyst for further exploration. The site is constantly expanding, and the designers are exploring ways to support their work toward adding metadata records to the images.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this AL Direct feature? Tell us about it. [<mailto:aldirect@ala.org>] Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the I Love Libraries [<http://www.ilovelibraries.ala.org/diglibweekly/>] site.

Public Perception How the World Sees Us

“We have been observing librarians for a long time now, and if we know anything at all, it is that no one suffers more than the librarian when trouble befalls a library. As a child, we once saw a librarian break the physical restraints of a burly volunteer fireman to race back into a tiny community library where billows of mysterious black smoke had forced an evacuation of the building. She staggered out a few minutes later, sooty and disheveled, with an armload of Sir Walter Scott’s novels and poetry clutched to her ample bosom.”

“The Life and Hard Times of a Library,” Denton (Tex.)
Record-Chronicle, Mar. 10.

[<http://www.twitter.com/amlibraries>]

AL on Twitter? Follow American Libraries news stories, videos, and blog posts on Twitter. [<http://www.twitter.com/amlibraries>]

Know your Stimulus

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/wo/woissues/washfunding/fedfund/arra101.cfm>]

Throughout the Obama Administration’s process of creating the

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the library community demonstrated a steadfast commitment to the American public by working to inform our leaders in Washington about the programs and services libraries across the country are providing to help America get back to work. The ALA Washington Office has compiled a list of the programs that libraries can benefit from....

Calendar

Apr. 4:
Library 2.0 Symposium to Explore the Future of Digital Collections,
[<http://www.law.yale.edu/intellecuallife/informationssocietyproject.htm>]
Yale Law School, New Haven, Connecticut.

Apr. 7:
Innovation in Libraries by the Shanachies,
[http://www.queenslibrary.org/index.aspx?page_nm=Professional_Program]
Queens Library, Flushing, New York.

Apr. 8:
Increasing E-Resource Use through Improved User Access,
[<http://www.niso.org/news/events/2009/kbart09>] Online, sponsored by NISO
Knowledge Base and Related Tools Working Group and OpenURL.

Apr. 26–29:
Academic Library Advancement and Development Network Annual Conference,
[<http://www.unl.edu/aladn09/>] Williamsburg, Virginia.

May 27–29:
Digital Directions, [<http://www.nedcc.org/education/ddsd09.php>] The
Westin San Diego, “Fundamentals of Creating and Managing Digital
Collections.”

June 23–24: Second International m-Libraries Conference,
[<http://library.open.ac.uk/mLibraries/>] University of British Columbia,
Vancouver.

Aug. 8:
African-American Genealogical Research,
[<http://www.archives.gov/great-lakes/public/programs/calendar.html>]
National Archives and Records Administration–Great Lakes Region,
Chicago.

Sept. 11–13:
Association for Rural and Small Libraries Conference,
[<http://www.bcr.org/ARSL/index.html>] Gaitlinburg, Tennessee.

@ More [<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/calendar/calendar.cfm>]...

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American Libraries Direct

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american libraries DIRECT

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | March 25, 2009

Contents

[U.S. & World News](#)
[ALA News](#)
[AL Focus](#)
[Booklist Online](#)
[Division News](#)
[Round Table News](#)
[Awards](#)
[Seen Online](#)
[Tech Talk](#)
[Publishing](#)
[Actions & Answers](#)
[Calendar](#)



SCHOOLROOMS
A new learning portal for K-12

- ✓ Teacher-selected Content
- ✓ 71 Subjects – Aligned to Curriculum
- ✓ 3 Million High-quality Sites Searchable



U.S. & World News

[Libraries for the Future ceases operations](#)

The national nonprofit organization Libraries for the Future announced March 18 that it has ceased operations. In making the announcement Executive Director Bruce Astrein blamed the economic meltdown that has overtaken the country. Libraries for the Future was founded in 1992 and built on the vision of writer and activist Harriet Barlow and a small group of advocates to work for the perpetuation of the public library system in the United States....

American Libraries Online, Mar. 21



[ALA Annual Conference,](#)

Chicago, July 9–15. ALA divisions and round tables are sponsoring [Conference 101 programs](#). These will help you plan your conference activities based on the kind of work you do or the type of library where you work. Get expert advice on programs to attend, exhibitors to visit, parties to frequent, and ways to get the most out of ALA conference.

[Baltimore mayor proposes cuts to library hours](#)

Amid a host of proposed layoffs and city service cuts in Baltimore, Mayor Sheila Dixon suggested March 18 that the Enoch Pratt Free Library cut its branches' operating hours. The proposed cuts, which would go into effect July 1, do not affect the Central Library but would force four branches that are currently open six days per week to be closed on either Fridays or Mondays, bringing all the branches to a five-day schedule....

American Libraries Online, Mar. 22

[Philly sales tax hike would avert closings](#)

Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter has proposed a 1% addition to the city's sales tax over the next three years that would preserve essential services, including the 11 library branches that he had targeted for closure last year. The tax hike is part of a \$3.8-billion budget proposal and a five-year plan to address the city's fiscal crisis that also includes property tax increases....

American Libraries Online, Mar. 21

ALA News

[\\$1.6-million shortfall forces staff cuts, furloughs](#)

Unit managers heard it the morning of March 25 for the first time as a group, when ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels announced that the Association would attempt to close a projected \$1.6-million shortfall in the FY2009 budget by, among other things,



In [Implementing Second Life: Ideas](#),

eliminating 10 staff positions and imposing a three-day unpaid furlough and other vacation rules on remaining staff to save a targeted \$500,000 by the end of the fiscal year, August 31. Fiels hopes the Association can fill the remaining gap by tapping into ALA reserves....

AL Inside Scoop, Mar. 25

[New issues brief on public library technology](#)

The vast majority of public libraries report that providing education resources and databases for K–12 students is the internet-based service most critical to the role of the library.

In the third of a series of reports related to technology access in U.S. public libraries, the ALA Office for Research and Statistics is highlighting how public library technology supports the educational and learning needs of every person in the community. "Supporting Learners in U.S. Public Libraries" ([PDF file](#)) outlines many of the resources public libraries offer learners of all ages....



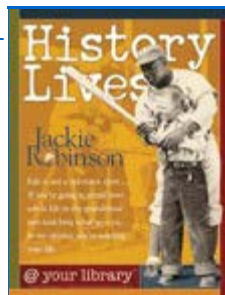
[Legislation will protect books from CPSIA regulation](#)

ALA supports legislation introduced by U.S. Rep. Jeff Fortenberry (R-Nebr.) March 24 to amend the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act to exempt ordinary books from the lead limit within the act. In August 2008, Congress passed the law to protect children from the real dangers of toys made with lead-based paint; however, the Consumer Product Safety Commission misinterpreted it to apply to ordinary books for children 12 years of age or younger. This is a welcome step toward ensuring libraries will not be adversely affected by the law....

District Dispatch, Mar. 25

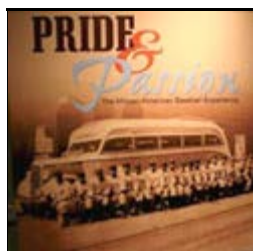
[Free Jackie Robinson posters went fast](#)

Since registration began in early March, hundreds of public and school librarians have [signed up](#) for season four of "Step Up to the Plate @ your library." The program was developed by ALA and the Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum to promote 21st-century literacy. The first 100 registrants received a Jackie Robinson History Lives poster from ALA Graphics. Step Up to the Plate @ your library will officially launch to the public during National Library Week, April 12–18....



[Second inning for Pride and Passion traveling exhibit](#)

Twenty-five additional libraries have been selected to host [Pride and Passion: The African American Baseball Experience](#), a traveling exhibit telling the story of black baseball players in the United States over the past century and a half. All libraries selected for the tour will host the 1,000-square-foot exhibit for a period of six weeks between January 2009 and February 2013. They will receive a \$2,500 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for attendance at an exhibit-planning workshop and other expenses. The ALA Public Programs Office and the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum are



[Challenges, and Innovations](#), the latest issue of *Library Technology Reports*, Joe Sanchez looks at the history of virtual worlds and how educators have used them as tools for learning in the 21st century. **NEW! From ALA TechSource.**

In this issue March 2009



Libraries and civic engagement

The return of Salinas Public Library

Amalgamating for advocacy

Midwinter Meeting conversations

Career Leads from

ALA JobLIST



[Library Director](#). New Orleans Public Library. NOPL is seeking a

sponsoring the exhibit....

[The amazing travels of John Adams](#)

In conjunction with its [John Adams Unbound](#) traveling exhibition, the Public Programs Office is having fun with die-cut John Adams bookmarks. Librarians take them along in their travels and snap pictures of Adams in various locales around the world. Recent photos include Adams having a chat with Rev. Al Sharpton, entering Mickie's Dairy Bar in Madison, hanging out in Puerto Rico's El Yunque Rain Forest, and visiting Thomas Jefferson's library in the Library of Congress (right)....

Where in the World Is John Adams?



[Apply to host Harry Potter's World](#)

Public, academic, and medical libraries can apply to host a new exhibit, [Harry Potter's World: Renaissance Science, Magic, and Medicine](#). The exhibit is sponsored by the ALA Public Programs Office, in cooperation with the National Library of Medicine. The exhibition explores Harry Potter's world, its roots in Renaissance science, and the ethical questions that affected not only the wizards in J. K. Rowling's books, but also the historical thinkers featured in the series. [Applications](#) must be received by May 1....



[Washington Office participates in broadband discussion](#)

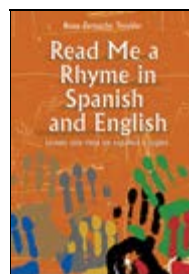
ALA Washington Office Executive Director Emily Sheketoff took part in a recent roundtable discussion during a public meeting at the U.S. Department of Commerce. Topics included the broadband stimulus program on innovative programs and activities of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, the Agriculture Department's Rural Utilities Service, and the Federal Communications Commission. Sheketoff took part in [Session 3](#) on March 16....

District Dispatch, Mar. 18



[Reach out to Spanish speakers](#)

ALA Editions has released [Read Me a Rhyme in Spanish and English](#) by Rose Zertuche Treviño. The ready-made storytimes included in this unique bilingual book are a must-have for any library serving Spanish-speaking patrons. The program material originates from Latino culture, engaging those for whom the nursery rhymes are new, as well as older children for whom the rhymes are old favorites....



[Reading aloud to children and teens](#)

ALA Editions has released [Reid's Read-Alouds: Selections for Children and Teens](#) by Rob Reid. Inspired by Reid's popular column in *Book Links* magazine, this time-saving resource includes read-aloud passages from 200 titles and advice on how to prepare for a read-aloud....

[Service learning for LIS students](#)

More library schools are incorporating service learning

library director who can provide leadership in rebuilding the library system post-Hurricane Katrina. This recovering library system, with a budget of \$7.5 million, has launched an ambitious \$30-million capital campaign to rebuild and renovate multiple branches affected by the hurricane. The director will work with a highly motivated administrative team, a staff of over 120, and report to the library board of directors in the historical urban setting of New Orleans....

@ [More jobs...](#)

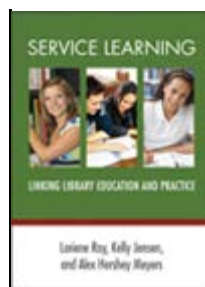
[Digital Library of the Week](#)



[1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition.](#)

The more than 1,200 photographs from this exposition document the fair, held on the Seattle campus of the University of Washington during the summer of 1909. Images include depictions of the buildings, grounds, entertainment, and exotic attractions at the fair. The fair shaped the UW campus in ways that

into the student experience as concern grows over the relevance of a master's degree to the professional work of librarianship. ALA Past President Lorie Roy teamed up with Kelly Jensen and Alex Hershey Meyers to bring together authors from top-tier schools to outline their programs and surrounding efforts in [Service Learning](#), from ALA Editions....



AL Focus

[ACRL's 14th National Conference](#)

In this overview (2:21) of the 2009 ACRL National Conference in Seattle, keynoter Sherman Alexie discusses a terminology conundrum, Mary K. Van Ullen explains the effect of cultural differences on teaching about plagiarism, Diane Dallis describes Indiana University's planned research commons, and keynoter Ira Glass demonstrates how *This American Life* uses music to make stories come to life....



are visible today, creating the Rainier Vista and Drumheller Fountain. For many years, some of the former fair buildings were used by the university; today only Architecture Hall and Cunningham Hall remain. The information for the collection was researched and prepared by the UW Libraries Special Collections Division and Cataloging staff in 1999. Not all the photographs from the collection were included in this database, which consists of 655 digital images chosen from a larger group of photographic prints and postcards. The images were scanned in grayscale using a Microtek Scanmaker 9600L and saved in JPEG format. The original collection resides in the UW Libraries Special Collections Division as the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition Collection.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this *AL Direct* feature? [Tell us about it.](#) Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the [Love Libraries](#) site.

Booklist ONLINE

[Featured review: Books for youth](#)

Benjamin (author and illustrator). *Orange*. Feb. 2009. 144p. Grades 11–12. Tokyopop, paperback (978-1-4278-1463-0).

Starting with the literal and figurative bang of a falling body smashing into a car, *Orange*—one in Tokyopop's new line of full-color graphic novels—tells its story in flashback through some of the most beautiful art rendered in modern manga. Orange is a girl who feels "pathetic and alone," troubled by empty friendships with people she feels are poseurs and boyfriends who treat her poorly and make unwanted sexual advances. But a chance meeting at a crucial moment with a mysterious man who makes the ultimate romantic sacrifice brings her story back to that inevitable bang in a surprising way....



[Despereaux measures](#)

Daniel Kraus writes: "I had a ball chatting with [Ingrid Law](#), and Gillian Engberg seemed thrilled to be talking to [Ann Brashares](#), but for sheer frequency of giggling frivolity, it looks like Ilene Cooper has us beat. She had a pow-wow recently with author Kate DiCamillo and before it's over they



Public Perception

How the World
Sees Us

"An adult needs a sense of childhood, and books provide

both sound like they're about to hyperventilate from laughter. What's so funny? You'll have to watch and see, but I will say that DiCamillo talks extensively about the surreal experience of seeing her book *The Tale of Despereaux* turned into a major motion picture."...

Likely Stories, Mar. 25

[Booklist editor on Howard Stern Show](#)

Mary Burkey writes: "It's not every day that a mild-mannered *Booklist* editor earns her 15 minutes of fame. But that's exactly what happened when Mary Frances Wilkens, long-time fan of Howard Stern's radio show, was assigned the decidedly adult audiobook written by Stern show regular Artie Lange. When Mary Fran starred the review of Lange's *Too Fat to Fish*, little did she realize that her work would catch the eye (ear?) of Stern's radio show producers. But lo and behold, the fan became the featured guest, as Mary Fran was [interviewed](#) on the show!"...

Audiobooker, Mar. 15

@ Visit [Booklist Online](#) for other reviews and much more....

that. Children need a sense of what an adult is capable of becoming, and a librarian provides that. In a world filled with cruelty, we need sense and sensibility, and the library provides that. Long live the library!"

—Endorsement from a library patron in a survey conducted jointly by the New Jersey State Library and the New Jersey Library Association, "[Snapshot: One Day in the Life of New Jersey Libraries](#)," Feb. 19.



AL on Twitter? Follow *American Libraries* news stories, videos, and blog posts on [Twitter](#).

Division News

[ACRL's Strategic Thinking Guide for Academic Librarians in the New Economy](#) (PDF file)

Kathryn Deiss and Mary Jane Petrowski write in the introduction to this new ACRL document: "This project was originally conceived as an environmental scan that would generate discussion at the ACRL 14th National Conference in March. In the wake of dramatic economic developments, government action, and a flood of higher education trends reports, we felt that a strategic thinking guide would better complement the current literature. This guide considers three important drivers in the current environment and poses questions to stimulate conversations and action in your libraries and on your campuses."...

[YALSA names WrestleMania Reading Challenge winners](#)

Ten regional winners in grades 7–8 and 9–12 from across the United States have won a chance to compete in the WrestleMania Reading Challenge National Finals in Houston, Texas. Five regional champions from grades 5–6 will also be guests at the finals, which will be held on April 4 at the Houston Public Library. Each regional winner won a trip for two to Houston, tickets to the 25th Anniversary of WrestleMania at Reliant Stadium on April 5, and \$2,000 for their sponsoring library. The Reading Challenge is sponsored by YALSA and World Wrestling Entertainment....



[ALTAFF to host quiz-show fundraiser](#)

ALTAFF and ALA Conference Services will present an evening with *Wait Wait . . . Don't Tell Me!*, National Public Radio's weekly hour-long quiz program on July 9. ALTAFF has purchased all 500 seats in Chicago's Chase Auditorium and will pack



April is [School Library Media Month](#).

This year, AASL is offering a [webinar series](#) designed for school library media specialists. The webinars are part of AASL's Learning4Life, an initiative to implement *Standards for the 21st-Century Learner* and *Empowering Learners: Guidelines for School Library Media Programs* (available in mid-April) nationally. The webinars will be held at 4:30 p.m. Central Time on Wednesdays.



the house with librarians and library supporters as a fundraiser for the newly established division during ALA Annual Conference. Host Peter Sagal, official scorekeeper Carl Kasell, and a panel of the nation's foremost pundits (including Paula Poundstone) will play this witty and quirky quiz show....

[Choice's new office](#)

On February 20, ACRL's *Choice* magazine took possession of the new Liberty Square office condominium unit in downtown Middletown, Connecticut. The new three-story building has retail space on the ground floor, office rental space on the second floor, and *Choice* occupying the entire 7,635-square-foot third floor. *Choice*'s new address, effective March 23, is 575 Main Street, Suite 300, Middletown, CT 06457....



[RUSA program on readers' advisory trends](#)

Readers' advisory, collection development, and reference librarians interested in cutting-edge trends and possibilities in their field should attend the RUSA President's Program, "From the Book and Beyond: Interdisciplinary Readers' Advisory," at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The program, 1:30–3 p.m. on July 13, is the inaugural session of the Readers' Advisory Research and Trends Forum....

[RUSA Marketing Basics registration ends soon](#)

Librarians intimidated by marketing assignments related to their jobs or looking to perfect their marketing know-how should register for [Marketing Basics for Libraries](#) by March 30. Classes are scheduled for the following dates: April 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30, 11 a.m.–1 p.m. Central Time using the Moodle course management system....

[PLA politics and networking workshop](#)

Now more than ever, being able to navigate the political environment in your community is critical to the success of your public library. In order to help you learn the skills you need to operate effectively with your local government, PLA and the Georgia Public Library Service are offering a two-day CPLA [Politics and Networking workshop](#) June 4–5 in Decatur, Georgia....

Round Table News

[SRRT Newsletter goes web-only](#)

LaJuan Pringle writes: "The Social Responsibilities Round Table is undertaking a huge shift in the delivery of the *SRRT Newsletter*. Welcome to our first electronic-only edition of the newsletter. After a long discussion at Midwinter, we have decided that we would like to experiment with electronic delivery. What we hope to do is cut down on the expenses associated with delivering a printed newsletter to our members before our annual and midwinter meetings."...
SRRT Newsletter, no. 166 (Mar.)

Ask the ALA Librarian



Q. I have been searching for information on why students don't like to use the library catalog to find information, and I was wondering if you had any information you could pass on. I am concerned that students at my school have to log on using their own personal account password before they can get into the catalog. This sometimes takes up to three minutes. Students end up asking the library staff for help, leave frustrated, or decide not to use the library.

A. There are [several articles](#) in the library literature that give some indications of why K–12 students don't like using library catalogs, or at least why they prefer to ask a person for help finding a book. Whether or not there should be dedicated catalog workstations,

Awards

[Coretta Scott King Awards founder, Mabel McKissick](#)

Mabel R. McKissick, cofounder of the ALA Coretta Scott King Book Awards, died on March 20 at the Bridebrook Rehabilitation Center in Niantic, Connecticut. The librarian for New London (Conn.) High School from 1979 to 1990, she was 87. McKissick and Glyndon Greer were attending a library conference in New Jersey in 1969, when they determined the need to recognize African-American authors and illustrators of books for children and youth. After talking to Coretta Scott King, they received her approval to use her name on the awards, which began in 1970....



[2009 L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award winner](#)

The ALA Office for Information Technology Policy and its Copyright Advisory Subcommittee have named Jack Bernard, assistant general counsel and policy analyst at the University of Michigan, this year's winner of the L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award. Bernard has been a pioneer in the open access movement and is shepherding the University of Michigan's efforts to incorporate a fair use analysis into its open course initiatives....

District Dispatch, Mar. 24



[Richard LeComte wins Justin Winsor Prize](#)

The Library History Round Table has named Richard LeComte the winner of the Justin Winsor Prize for 2009. The award, \$500 and a certificate, is presented annually to the author of an outstanding essay embodying original historical research on a significant subject of library history. A student in the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Alabama, LeComte won the prize for his essay, "Writers Blocked: The Debate over Public Lending Right during the 1980s."...



[2009 Jesse H. Shera Award](#)

The Library Research Round Table has awarded the Jesse H. Shera Award for Distinguished Published Research to Lynn Westbrook for her work on "Understanding Crisis Information Needs in Context: The Case on Intimate Partner Violence Survivor," *Library Quarterly* 78, no. 3 (2008): 237-261. The study examines the role public libraries can play in providing the information needs of victims of intimate partner violence....



[LJ Movers and Shakers](#)

Movers and Shakers, which *Library Journal* launched in 2002 to identify librarians, vendors, and others who are "shaping the future of libraries," is now over 400 innovators strong, with the addition of the 51 members of the Class of 2009. Together, these individuals comprise the coming generation of library

such as those found in public libraries, in school media centers does not appear to be addressed in any of these scholarly articles. There is definitely a need to have readily accessible computers in the school library, but none of the articles address whether the computers should be standalone OPACs or not. From the [ALA Professional Tips wiki](#).

@ The [ALA Librarian](#) welcomes your questions.



April 12-18 is [National Library Week](#), an observance honoring the contributions of our nation's libraries, librarians, and library workers. This year's theme is "Worlds Connect @ your library" and will be celebrated at thousands of libraries of all types throughout the country.

Calendar

Apr. 13-17: [American Educational Research Association](#), Annual Meeting, San Diego Convention Center.



leadership. They've embraced library technology, particularly library 2.0, "to provide exceptional service and kick-ass collections that respond to the real interest of patrons," as one of this year's Movers phrased it. Oh yes, and the Library Society of the World has launched its own [Shovers and Makers](#) awards for the rest of us. [Declare yourself](#) one....

Library Journal, Mar. 15; Library Society of the World, Mar. 23+

[Public Library Innovation Grants](#)

The International City/County Management Association has awarded \$500,000 in grant funding to nine cities, towns, and counties to support new projects developed by local governments that utilize public libraries to address critical local needs and provide services that strengthen their communities. The Public Library Innovation Grants are funded through ICMA's partnership with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation....

International City/County Management Association

[Syracuse awarded NEH grant for Marcel Breuer digital project](#)

The National Endowment for the Humanities has awarded the Syracuse (N.Y.) University Library a \$350,000 grant to create a digital scholarly edition of the works of Bauhaus architect Marcel Breuer. The project, entitled "Marcel Breuer, Architect: Life and Work, 1922–1955" will run from May 2009 through April 2011 and culminate in the release of a web-based edition. Breuer began donating his papers to Syracuse University Library in 1964....

Syracuse University, Mar. 19



[Seamus Heaney wins David Cohen Prize](#)

Irish poet Seamus Heaney was recognized for the "sheer scale" of his literary achievements with the £40,000 (\$58,700 U.S.) David Cohen Prize. The prize, one of the most prestigious honors for living British writers, is awarded biennially for a lifetime's excellence in literature. On receiving his prize at a March 18 ceremony at the British Library, Heaney said the award was "highly honorific."...

The Guardian (U.K.), Mar. 18



[Krasikov wins 2009 Sami Rohr Prize](#)

The Jewish Book Council has named Sana Krasikov the 2009 recipient of the Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature. Krasikov wins the \$100,000 prize for her debut short story collection, *One More Year* (Spiegel and Grau), based on her demonstration of a fresh vision and evidence of future potential to further contribute to the Jewish literary community....

Jewish Book Council, Mar. 24



[2009 Bancroft Prize winners](#)

"Disciplined Inquiry: Education Research in the Circle of Knowledge."

Apr. 14–17:

[Catholic Library Association](#)

Annual Convention, Hyatt Regency Orange County, Anaheim, California. "Leadership, Direction, Service."

Apr. 16–21:

[Art Libraries Society of North America](#)

Annual Conference, Downtown Marriott, Indianapolis. "Circle City Convergence."

May 1:

[Art of Storytelling](#)

workshop, Main Library, Miami-Dade (Fla.) Public Library System.

May 12–16:

[Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries](#)

Annual Meeting, Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis. "Growing Green: The Role of Gardens As Models of Conservation and Sustainability."

May 27–30:

[Association for Recorded Sound Collections](#)

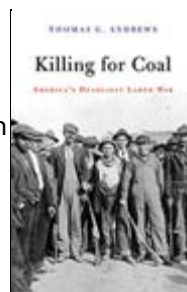
Annual Conference, Liaison Capitol Hill Hotel, Washington, D.C.

May 28–31:

[BookExpo America](#)

Jacob J. Javits Center, New York City.

The authors of three acclaimed books—a study of the 1914 massacre of striking coal miners in Colorado (right), an analysis of the impact of death and dying in the Civil War, and a reinterpretation of the Comanches in the southwestern borderland in the 18th and 19th centuries—will be awarded the Bancroft Prize for 2009, Columbia University announced. The Bancroft is awarded annually by the trustees of Columbia University to the authors of books of exceptional merit in the fields of American history, biography, and diplomacy....
Columbia University, Mar. 19



2009 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award

The 2009 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award has been awarded to the [Tamer Institute for Community Education](#), a nonprofit organization that stimulates Palestinian children's and young adults' love of reading in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The award of 5 million kronor (\$6.8 million U.S.) is granted by the Swedish government for the publishing or promotion of children's literature....

Seen Online

Libraries stressed, yet needed more than ever

Alicia Caldwell writes: "Not long ago, on a Sunday afternoon, my son and I pulled into the parking lot of Denver's Schlessman Family Branch Library. I was surprised by what I saw. The place was like Best Buy during Christmas week. We had to hunt for a parking space and, when we got inside, it was wall-to-wall people. The recession is driving people back to libraries, which prognosticators had not long ago written off as another likely victim of the digital age."...

Denver Post, Mar. 22

Well, maybe not Shakespeare

Katherine Duncan-Jones writes: "A claim by the eminent Shakespearean Stanley Wells that a Jacobean painting (left) from the family collection of Alec Cobbe, long held in Ireland, is a life portrait of Shakespeare, has been widely publicized. But the man portrayed, with his elaborate lace collar and gold-embroidered doublet, appears far too grand and courtier-like to be Shakespeare. In early March, Tarnya Cooper, the 16th-century curator at the National Portrait Gallery, declared herself very skeptical about Wells's claim, and remarked that 'if anything . . . both works [one in the Folger Shakespeare Library and the Cobbe portrait] are more likely to represent the courtier Sir Thomas Overbury (right).'"...

Times Literary Supplement, Mar. 18



Camera catches New Haven art bandit

A thief allegedly slipped a painting under his jacket to feed his heroin habit—not knowing that the public library's cameras were rolling and his string of remarkable art heists was about to end. Police said the thief, an unidentified 53-year-old man, ripped off 39 paintings from New Haven, Connecticut, venues, including \$40,000 in art from Yale's Slifka Center and the Free Public Library. The paintings were [recovered](#) during a weekend bust on an area home, where a second man had allegedly been fencing the art in exchange for bags of heroin....

May 29–

June 1:

Canadian Library Association.

Conference and Trade Show, Palais des Congrès de Montréal, Québec.

June 8–11:

Association of Christian Librarians.

Annual Conference, Evangel University, Springfield, Missouri. "Retool, Refresh, Return."

June 17–20:

American Theological Library Association.

Millennium Hotel, St. Louis.

July 5–8:

Association of Jewish Libraries.

Annual Conference, Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers.

July 9–12:

Early Book Society.

11th Biennial Conference, University of Exeter, U.K. "Accipe et Devora: Packaging, Presentation and Consumption of MSS and Printed Books, 1350–1550."

July 9–15:

American Library Association.

Annual Conference, McCormick Place West, Chicago.

July 11:

The Who, What, and How of 21st-century Skills: Getting the Big Picture.

workshop sponsored by NILRC: Network of Illinois Learning Resources in Community Colleges

New Haven (Conn.) Independent, Mar. 23; *New Haven (Conn.) Register*, Mar. 24

[Topeka's problem is not unique](#)

Camille Wood is assistant director of the Nampa (Idaho) Public Library, which restricted two sex-related books in June 2008 and then placed the books back on the shelf after the American Civil Liberties Union threatened a lawsuit. One of those books (*The Joy of Gay Sex*) is among four that the Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library's board of trustees voted 5–3 in favor of restricting minors' access to. Trustees and the library's legal counsel spent an hour and a half in executive session March 19 discussing the decision....

Topeka (Kans.) Capital-Journal, Mar. 21



[Vermont libraries have more than books](#)

At least one Vermont library (the Martha Canfield Library in Arlington) has a skeleton in its stacks. But it's nothing to hide. In fact, patrons can check out the plastic bones and take them home, along with a model of a human torso and a variety of human and animal X-rays. Library users can check out everything from practical items such as garden tools and snowshoes to whimsical things such as puppets and children's costumes....

Rutland (Vt.) Herald, Mar. 22

[Vampire book missing after parent complains](#)

A parent's complaint over sexual content in Mormon author Stephenie Meyer's fourth novel, *Breaking Dawn*, coincided with the book's temporary absence from the library at Brockbank Junior High in Magna, Utah. Officials at the school purchased copies of the book some time ago, but as of March 18 hadn't placed them on library shelves. Principal Terri Van Winkle would not say whether the delay stemmed from a parent's complaint about a honeymoon scene in which sex is implied between the central characters Bella and Edward....

Salt Lake Tribune, Mar. 19



[Wind to power KU's Anschutz Library](#)

Wind will generate the electricity needed next year to power the Anschutz Library at University of Kansas in Lawrence. The Student Environmental Advisory Board this month began buying wind power credits from Westar Energy to offset fossil-fuel power to the library. A 2007 Student Senate initiative, approved by more than a 90% margin, calls for students to pay \$1.25 a semester toward the goal of KU obtaining 20% of its energy from sustainable sources by 2020....

Topeka (Kans.) Capital-Journal, Mar. 23

[Roosevelt Public Library embezzlement charge](#)

The Roosevelt (N.Y.) Public Library's former board president has been arrested on charges she stole \$47,000 from the library to pay for airplane tickets, car repairs, and groceries. Natalie Connor pleaded not guilty at her March 23 arraignment and is due back in court April 10. The Nassau District Attorney's office charged that from May 2007 through June 2008, Connor embezzled \$47,278 of the \$48,000 the foundation collected through fundraising....

Long Island (N.Y.) Newsday, Mar. 25

and National-Louis University Library, Chicago.

July 25–28:

[American Association of Law Libraries](#)

Annual Meeting, Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C.

Aug. 23–27:

[International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions](#)

World Library and Information Congress, Fiera Milano Convention Centre, Milan, Italy. "Libraries Create Futures: Building on Cultural Heritage."

Sept. 2–4:

[International Association of School Librarianship](#)

Annual Conference, Abano Terme, Padua, Italy.

Sept. 8–11:

[International Conference for Digital Libraries and the Semantic Web](#)

University of Trento, Italy.

Sept. 27–

Oct. 1:

[International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers](#)

35th Annual Conference, Brugge and Oostende, Belgium. "Confluence of Ideas: Evolving to Meet the Challenges of Global Change."

Sept. 27–

Oct. 2:

[13th European](#)

Brooklyn Public Library transfers guard for harassment

The Brooklyn Public Library has transferred a security guard who twice chastised a new mother for breastfeeding her baby at the Flatlands branch. The library has also apologized to the woman, Danielle Glanvill, who had contacted the New York Civil Liberties Union about the harassment. The library's general counsel responded in a March 16 letter, reiterating its support for women's breastfeeding rights and outlining its efforts to address the mistake....

Chestertown (N.Y.) North Country Gazette, Mar. 23

Henderson shuts a branch

The Henderson (Nev.) District Public Libraries board of directors unanimously voted March 19 to permanently close the Pittman branch in an effort to trim costs against declining revenues. Executive Director Tom Fay said the system will maintain a small collection and continue to offer literacy programs and other services at the Boys and Girls Club in the same building, while looking for a larger, permanent site for the branch to move into when financially possible....

Las Vegas (Nev.) Sun, Mar. 19



Smoothie sale brings bucks for New Orleans branch

18-year-old Stephen Riley of Little Rock, Arkansas, has found time to raise money for a place he remembers fondly—the Robert E. Smith branch of the New Orleans Public Library. When he was in elementary school in New Orleans, Riley visited the Smith library many times. Last fall he started Bucks for Books, a fundraising effort for the Smith branch, which has netted more than \$3,500. He also planned and held a smoothie sale fundraiser at his school in November....

Arkansas Catholic, Mar. 14



Plan would limit prison library books

A broad swath of religious organizations and civil liberties groups—often on opposite sides of contentious issues—have joined together to condemn a proposed rule that they say would prohibit some religious texts in federal penitentiary libraries. The Bureau of Prisons in January proposed that “materials that could incite, promote, or otherwise suggest the commission of violence or criminal activity” may be excluded from chapel libraries. An alliance of religious and political groups opposed the rule during the open comments period, which ended March 17....

New York Times, Mar. 17

Wyoming's mudflap girl still a hit

The Wyoming State Library has conducted other targeted marketing efforts, but none has taken on a life of its own like the [library mudflap girl](#). Launched in the fall of 2007, the six-month campaign featured the silhouette of a nude woman reading a book—a toned-down variation of the image commonly seen on truck mudflaps. The campaign drew complaints from critics who said the library



Conference on Digital Libraries.

Corfu Holiday Palace, Corfu, Greece. “Digital Societies.”

Oct. 19–23: Open Access Week.

@ [More...](#)

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Library
Association

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American Libraries
50 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611
www.ala.org/alonline/

shouldn't objectify women in its promotional materials. But mudflap girl T-shirts and other paraphernalia continue to sell online, and the topic still pops up in blogs and at library conferences....

Associated Press, Mar. 23

800-545-2433,
ext. 4216

ISSN 1559-369X.

[Go back to the Top](#)

Tech Talk

[10 annoying habits of a geeky spouse](#)

Matt Blum writes: "A sizable part of every successful marriage is learning to live with those things each other does that annoy you.

It's safe to say that geeks have some habits that we think are awesome, but that non-geeks find a little less awesome. My wife is not as much of a geek as I am, so I asked her for some help putting together a list of 10 things geeks do that annoy their spouses. She was perhaps a little too enthusiastic about helping out, but here are the results."...

Geekdad, Mar. 13

There are only 10 types
of people in the world:
Those who understand binary
and those who don't.

[Gaming in the clouds](#)

[OnLive](#), a Palo Alto, California-based startup, wants to do away with gaming consoles, game resellers, and the need to buy expensive graphics chips. On March 24, the company announced a service that lets any computer run the sorts of graphics-intensive video games traditionally reserved for high-end systems. Games can also be played on a TV using an add-on device. The idea is to separate games from consoles or desktop computers, says Steve Perlman, founder and CEO of OnLive....

Technology Review, Mar. 24

[The women of XML](#)

Kurt Kagle writes: "March 24, designated Ada Lovelace Day in honor of the woman recognized by many to have been the first software programmer, is a day to recognize women in programming. I find that in the XML community there are a number of highly intelligent, technologically passionate, and hard-working women that more than deserve to be recognized. I present this list with no particular ordering in mind; they have all pushed the boundaries of XML in their own unique ways."...

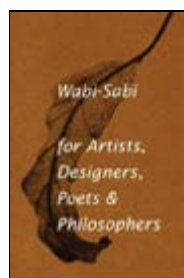
O'Reilly Broadcast, Mar. 24



[The elegance of imperfection in web design](#)

David Sherwin writes: "When I try to think of a paradigm for pursuing elegance through imperfection, the Japanese concept of wabi-sabi comes to mind. Leonard Koren, in his book *Wabi-Sabi for Artists, Designers, Poets, and Philosophers* (Imperfect, 2008), describes the following material qualities of wabi-sabi: asymmetry, asperity, simplicity, modesty, intimacy, and the suggestion of a natural process. The most successful designs infuse these considerations at every stage, from idea to finished product."...

A List Apart, Mar. 24



[Got an hour? Create a server in the cloud](#)



Lidija Davis writes: "On March 23, blog and RSS pioneer Dave Winer announced [EC2 for Poets](#), a step-by-step guide to creating a server on [Amazon's EC2](#) cloud server. His how-to guide is so easy to understand that we had our own server up and running within an hour. Sure, it may not seem like much, but for this writer, it was an amazing coup. 'It's time to stop thinking about these servers as being things for geeks and start thinking about them as things for people with ideas,' Winer said."...

ReadWriteWeb, Mar. 21

Publishing

[Lost Chicagoan found in the library](#)

(PDF file)

Alice Schreyer writes: "I have been delighted to see that Neil Harris's *The Chicagoan: A Lost Magazine of the Jazz Age* splendidly illustrates the role of serendipity in the research process. Upon its publication by University of Chicago Press in the fall of 2008, the *New York Times*, the *Chicago Tribune*, the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, and other periodicals embraced the book—to a degree unusual for a publication by a university press—and shared its story with library patrons near and far."...

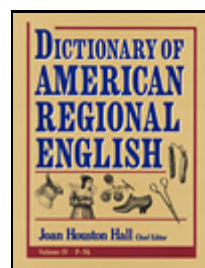
Illinois Library Association Reporter 27, no. 2 (Apr.): 12–15



[Regional English dictionary closes in on Z](#)

Meandering its merry way through new submissions such as "whiffle-minded," "whirligust," "whistle punk," and "williwags," the [Dictionary of American Regional English](#) project is now tantalizingly close to completing a mission more than four decades in the making. DARE received a two-year, \$295,000 boost from the National Science Foundation this year that will help not only close the book on the fifth DARE volume—covering Si through Z—but lead the project into an influential second life as an online resource....

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Mar. 23



[UM Press to merge operations with library](#)

Officials announced plans March 20 to merge the University of Michigan Press with the University Library in an effort to reinforce the school's mission of efficiently publishing scholarly texts while transitioning into the digital age. Under the new plan, Dean of Libraries Paul Courant will oversee the Press, which will [focus on](#) the production and dissemination of primarily digital monographs....

Michigan Daily, Mar. 23; University of Michigan Press blog, Mar. 23



[Sherlock Holmes in science fiction](#)

Alasdair Wilkins writes: "Sherlock Holmes wasn't the first master detective (that honor probably goes to Edgar Allan Poe's Auguste Dupin, who in his first case worked out the murderer was a knife-wielding orangutan), but his exploits pretty much perfected the

genre. But who says Holmes doesn't have a place in science fiction as well? We explore some of the Victorian sleuth's most fantastic adventures."...

io9, Mar. 22



[Sony to offer Google-scanned public-domain eBooks](#)

Sony Electronics has struck a deal with Google to distribute half a million titles through the Sony eBook Store—for free. The books, all published before 1923, were digitized as part of the Google Book Search program. Sony will offer them alongside the 100,000 or so books still under copyright that it sells through its eBook store. To access the public-domain books, owners of Sony's PRS-505 or PRS-700 readers will need to install the eBook Library Software for PCs and create an account on the eBook Store....

PC World, Mar. 19

[Fujitsu's new color eBook](#)

Josh Quittner writes: "Japanese tech company Fujitsu has [released](#) the world's first color e-reader, the FLEPia. It renders text as cleanly as a printed page, displays 260,000 colors, weighs three-quarters of a pound, and is connected to the net via WiFi. It costs \$1,000, a price tag that's probably three times too high, which is typical for products aimed at early adopters." Currently it is sold only in Japan....

Time, Mar. 19



Actions & Answers

[New FOIA rules are official](#)

Since 2001, the rule of thumb for government agencies responding to Freedom of Information Act requests has been "when in doubt, leave it out." A month after the September 11 attacks, a [directive](#) from then-Attorney General John Ashcroft urged agencies to carefully consider all possible grounds for withholding information before making disclosures. On March 19, Attorney General Eric Holder [reversed](#) that order, instructing executive branch officials that "an agency should not withhold information simply because it may do so legally." ALA President Jim Rettig [commented](#) that the new guidelines will restore the commitment of the United States to open government....

Ars Technica, Mar. 20; District Dispatch, Mar. 20

[The top 10 most wanted government documents](#)

The Center for Democracy and Technology and OpenTheGovernment.org have jointly released a report outlining the most sought-after government documents and information. The report, *Show Us the Data: The Most Wanted Government Documents* ([PDF file](#)), is based on the findings of an interactive website that allowed users to identify unclassified government documents and information they most wanted access to. The report details the top 10 documents and provides recommendations on ways to make all government information easily accessible....

Center for Democracy and Technology, Mar. 20



Federal librarians envision use of physical space

The Federal Library and Information Center Committee has published the final report ([PDF file](#)) of its Special Project on Planning for Library Spaces (a project of the [Libraries and Emerging Technologies Working Group](#)). The report was conceived as a response to the closing of the EPA libraries, where the federal agency had anticipated that space for a collection was no longer needed....

FAFLRT President blog, Mar. 23

NARA seeks alternative presidential library model

The National Archives and Records Administration is asking for comments by interested organizations and individuals for cost-effective ways to modify the present system for archiving and providing public access to presidential records. Suggestions should be [emailed](#) by April 17....

National Archives and Records Administration, Mar. 24

The economics of book digitization

Brewster Kahle writes: "Digitizing books still has some challenges, but I believe the economics of it are clear. Nonetheless, some misunderstandings persist. I'd like to review some of the most basic facts about book digitization that I've learned over the past seven or so years. Most attention is paid to the cost of scanning (photographing the pages and processing them), but I cannot emphasize enough that the greatest costs of building a digital library are those borne by the brick-and-mortar libraries."...

Open Content Alliance blog, Mar. 22

Healthfinder.gov tutorial for librarians

Librarians looking for a credible and easy-to-use health promotion and wellness online resource for their customers should visit [Healthfinder.gov](#). This is a National Health Information Center website full of personalized health information and tools presented in an easy-to-read format with simple navigation. The site has been recognized as a key consumer resource for finding the best government and nonprofit health information on the internet. NHIC has created a [tutorial](#) specifically for librarians....

Healthfinder.gov



SLA asks governor for library plan

The Special Libraries Association sent a letter ([PDF file](#)) to Gov. Edward G. Rendell on March 17 expressing strong concern over the proposed 50% budget cut for the State Library of Pennsylvania. The

experiments is the 'wonder wheel' (right). This will show a Flash-based interactive mini app which starts with your keyword in the center, and related terms around it."...

Google Blogoscoped, Mar. 24

Why advertising is failing on the internet

Eric Clemons writes: "There are three problems with advertising in any form, whether broadcast or online. Consumers do not trust advertising, consumers do not want to view advertising, and mostly consumers do not need advertising. Porting ads to a new medium will not solve these problems. We always knew that freedom comes at a price; perhaps the price of internet freedom and the failure of ads will be paying a fair price for the content and the experience and the recommendations that we value."...

TechCrunch, Mar. 22

"We Shall Remain" to air beginning April 13

"We Shall Remain" is a PBS *American Experience* miniseries and multimedia project that establishes Indian history as an essential part of American history. Five 90-minute documentaries spanning 300 years tell the story of pivotal moments in U.S. history from the Native American perspective. A [resource kit](#) is available for downloading. Libraries can enter a drawing up to May 7 to receive a DVD of the series; email [Bruce Curliss](#) and describe a library event you are planning that coincides with the broadcast, April 13–May 11....

Public Broadcasting Service



My favorite cheap date: The library

Erin Loechner writes: "I realize this sounds very bookworm-ish of me, but my favorite cheap date was actually free—a trip to our local library. On a particularly rainy day in L.A., my date surprised me at my door with one umbrella, two library cards, and a Ziploc bag of dimes. I was totally confused as we walked down the street to a tiny library near our favorite coffee shop."...

Glamour, Mar. 24



Legal Research Teach-In Kit

The American Association of Law Libraries has released the 2009 version of its Legal Research Teach-In Kit. The kit includes games, handouts, research guides, exercises, and PowerPoint presentations on a variety of legal research topics. The teach-in is an annual campaign launched in 1993 to encourage U.S. law librarians to share materials and ideas for legal research instruction....

American Association of Law Libraries, Mar. 23

A game board titled "Tax Law Research IQ" with a grid of numbers. The numbers are arranged in a 5x5 grid, with the top row containing 100, 200, 300, 400, and 500. The bottom row contains 500, 400, 300, 200, and 100. The board is divided into sections for "Current and Pending Acts", "Statutes and Executive Orders", "Primary Source", "Secondary Source", and "Miscellaneous".

Current and Pending Acts	Statutes and Executive Orders	Primary Source	Secondary Source	Miscellaneous
100	100	100	100	100
200	200	200	200	200
300	300	300	300	300
400	400	400	400	400
500	500	500	500	500

The other digital divide

Linda Braun writes: "The title of this post is the result of a Twitter conversation that I had recently with librarians working in high schools and colleges. The other digital divide is between people who do and don't have laptops to bring to school in order to connect to the internet, who do and don't have needed software on home computers, and who have or don't have family rules that make it

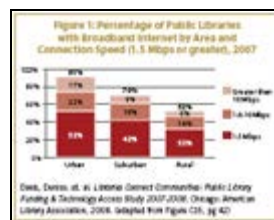
hard to do what they need (and want) to do online. Schools and public libraries are the places that teens can and should have access to the technologies that they don't have at home."...

YALSA blog, Mar. 25

[New IMLS data note on broadband services](#)

The Institute of Museum and Library Services has launched a new series of data notes and research briefs to inform library and museum policy. The first data note in the series, *Libraries Use Broadband to Serve High Need Communities* ([PDF file](#)), was released March 19 and focuses on the role that public libraries play in providing access points to broadband services for people in urban and rural areas, and families in need....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Mar. 19



[Ex Libris and BCR offer digital preservation training](#)

Ex Libris and BCR are partnering to offer libraries foundation training and consulting services in the field of digital preservation. The training will include an overview of digital preservation as well as courses on policy, planning, and risk assessment. The courses are available both online and in a classroom format....

BCR, Mar. 20



[Nine ways to use Twitter](#)

John C. Dvorak writes: "Disregard the hype and the haters; Twitter is a powerful platform with plenty of practical uses. More than a few computer users are befuddled by all the fuss, but I can assure you that Twitter is actually a valuable service. And because it is in the news, and because perhaps half or more than half of my readers will say 'I don't get it' regarding Twitter, I thought I'd explain its usefulness. Or at least some of its usefulness."...

PC Magazine, Mar. 23



[Twittephemeralness](#)

Jenny Levine writes: "I want to highlight how some important things from just a couple of months ago are becoming impossible to find. If we're not careful, the haystack is going to disappear, never mind the needle. Take the discussion that happened on Twitter during ALA's Midwinter Meeting in January. The meeting had a hashtag for tracking content (#alamw09), and almost everyone used it most of the time. There was a lot going on in that tag, so much so that I thought it was a [tipping point](#) for the Association in terms of communication tools. But try to find that discussion now, and it's almost impossible."...

The Shifted Librarian, Mar. 24

[Trouble with Twitters](#)

Derek struggles against the pressure from his officemate Craig to Twitter his life away (4:27). From "SuperNews!" an animated sketch comedy series airing on Current TV. "You bastard! You've summoned the fail whale!"...

YouTube, Mar. 16



[Go back to the Top](#)

AL Direct, March 25, 2009

Having trouble viewing this HTML e-mail (or seeing it in full)? Click
here [[<%= util.viewHtmlLink %>](#)].

The e-newsletter of the American Library Association | March 25, 2009

Contents

U.S. & World News [[#usworld](#)]
ALA News [[#alanews](#)]
AL Focus [[#alfocus](#)]
Booklist Online [[#booklist](#)]
Division News [[#divisionnews](#)]
Round Table News [[#roundtable](#)]
Awards [[#awards](#)]
Seen Online [[#seenonline](#)]
Tech Talk [[#techtalk](#)]
Publishing [[#publishing](#)]
Actions & Answers [[#actionsanswers](#)]
Calendar [[#datebook](#)]

[<http://www.schoolrooms.net>]

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

U.S. & World News

Libraries for the Future ceases operations

[http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/march2009/lff_closes.cfm]

The national nonprofit organization Libraries for the Future announced March 18 that it has ceased operations. In making the announcement Executive Director Bruce Astrein blamed the economic meltdown that has overtaken the country. Libraries for the Future was founded in 1992 and built on the vision of writer and activist Harriet Barlow and a small group of advocates to work for the perpetuation of the public library system in the United States....

American Libraries Online, Mar. 21

Baltimore mayor proposes cuts to library hours

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/march2009/prattcuts.cfm>]

Amid a host of proposed layoffs and city service cuts in Baltimore, Mayor

Sheila Dixon suggested March 18 that the Enoch Pratt Free Library cut its branches' operating hours. The proposed cuts, which would go into effect July 1, do not affect the Central Library but would force four branches that are currently open six days per week to be closed on either Fridays or Mondays, bringing all the branches to a five-day schedule....
American Libraries Online, Mar. 22

Philly sales tax hike would avert closings

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/currentnews/newsarchive/2009/march2009/phillytaxforlibs.cfm>]

Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter has proposed a 1% addition to the city's sales tax over the next three years that would preserve essential services, including the 11 library branches that he had targeted for closure last year. The tax hike is part of a \$3.8-billion budget proposal and a five-year plan to address the city's fiscal crisis that also includes property tax increases....

American Libraries Online, Mar. 21

ALA News

\$1.6-million shortfall forces staff cuts, furloughs

[<http://www.ala.org/insidescoop/2009/03/25/16-million-shortfall-forces-ala-staff-cuts-furloughs/>]

Unit managers heard it the morning of March 25 for the first time as a group, when ALA Executive Director Keith Michael Fiels announced that the Association would attempt to close a projected \$1.6-million shortfall in the FY2009 budget by, among other things, eliminating 10 staff positions and imposing a three-day unpaid furlough and other vacation rules on remaining staff to save a targeted \$500,000 by the end of the fiscal year, August 31. Fiels hopes the Association can fill the remaining gap by tapping into ALA reserves....

AL Inside Scoop, Mar. 25

New issues brief on public library technology

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/orsissuesbrief.cfm>]

The vast majority of public libraries report that providing education resources and databases for K–12 students is the internet-based service most critical to the role of the library. In the third of a series of reports related to technology access in U.S. public libraries, the ALA Office for Research and Statistics is highlighting how public library technology supports the educational and learning needs of every person in the community. "Supporting Learners in U.S. Public Libraries" (PDF file

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/ors/plftas/Issues%20brief-Ed.pdf>])

outlines many of the resources public libraries offer learners of all ages....

Legislation will protect books from CPSIA regulation

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2401>]

ALA supports legislation introduced by U.S. Rep. Jeff Fortenberry (R-Nebr.) March 24 to amend the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act

to exempt ordinary books from the lead limit within the act. In August 2008, Congress passed the law to protect children from the real dangers of toys made with lead-based paint; however, the Consumer Product Safety Commission misinterpreted it to apply to ordinary books for children 12 years of age or younger. This is a welcome step toward ensuring libraries will not be adversely affected by the law....
District Dispatch, Mar. 25

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=638>]Free Jackie Robinson posters went fast
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/campaignbaseballposters.cfm>]
Since registration began in early March, hundreds of public and school librarians have signed up
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/advocacy/publicawareness/campaign@yourlibrary/sponsorship/stepup/stepup.cfm>] for season four of "Step Up to the Plate @ your library." The program was developed by ALA and the Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum to promote 21st-century literacy. The first 100 registrants received a Jackie Robinson History Lives poster from ALA Graphics. Step Up to the Plate @ your library will officially launch to the public during National Library Week, April 12–18....

Second inning for Pride and Passion traveling exhibit
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/ppopridepassion2.cfm>]
Twenty-five additional libraries have been selected to host Pride and Passion: The African American Baseball Experience,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/ppo/programming/pridepassion/prideandpassion.cfm>] a traveling exhibit telling the story of black baseball players in the United States over the past century and a half. All libraries selected for the tour will host the 1,000-square-foot exhibit for a period of six weeks between January 2009 and February 2013. They will receive a \$2,500 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities for attendance at an exhibit-planning workshop and other expenses. The ALA Public Programs Office and the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum are sponsoring the exhibit....

The amazing travels of John Adams [<http://johnadamsbpl.blogspot.com/>]
In conjunction with its John Adams Unbound
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/ppo/programming/adams/johnadams.cfm>]
traveling exhibition, the Public Programs Office is having fun with die-cut John Adams bookmarks. Librarians take them along in their travels and snap pictures of Adams in various locales around the world. Recent photos include Adams having a chat with Rev. Al Sharpton, entering Mickie's Dairy Bar in Madison, hanging out in Puerto Rico's El Yunque Rain Forest, and visiting Thomas Jefferson's library in the Library of Congress (right)....
Where in the World Is John Adams?

Apply to host Harry Potter's World
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/harrypotterthinkfinity.cfm>]
Public, academic, and medical libraries can apply to host a new exhibit,

Harry Potter's World: Renaissance Science, Magic, and Medicine.
[<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/harrypottersworld/index.html>] The exhibit is sponsored by the ALA Public Programs Office, in cooperation with the National Library of Medicine. The exhibition explores Harry Potter's world, its roots in Renaissance science, and the ethical questions that affected not only the wizards in J. K. Rowling's books, but also the historical thinkers featured in the series.

Applications

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/ppo/programming/potter/index.cfm>] must be received by May 1....

Washington Office participates in broadband discussion

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2360>]

ALA Washington Office Executive Director Emily Sheketoff took part in a recent roundtable discussion during a public meeting at the U.S.

Department of Commerce. Topics included the broadband stimulus program on innovative programs and activities of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, the Agriculture Department's Rural Utilities Service, and the Federal Communications Commission. Sheketoff took part in Session 3

[<http://www.ntia.doc.gov/broadbandgrants/meetings.html>] on March 16....

District Dispatch, Mar. 18

Reach out to Spanish speakers

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/editionsspanish.cfm>]

ALA Editions has released Read Me a Rhyme in Spanish and English

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2599>] by Rose Zertuche

Treviño. The ready-made storytimes included in this unique bilingual book are a must-have for any library serving Spanish-speaking patrons. The program material originates from Latino culture, engaging those for whom the nursery rhymes are new, as well as older children for whom the rhymes are old favorites....

Reading aloud to children and teens

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/editionsreadingaloud.cfm>]

ALA Editions has released Reid's Read-Alouds: Selections for

Children and Teens [<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2494>] by

Rob Reid. Inspired by Reid's popular column in Book Links magazine, this time-saving resource includes read-aloud passages from 200 titles and advice on how to prepare for a read-aloud....

Service learning for LIS students

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/editionsroy.cfm>]

More library schools are incorporating service learning into the student experience as concern grows over the relevance of a master's degree to the professional work of librarianship. ALA Past President Lorie Roy teamed up with Kelly Jensen and Alex Hershey Meyers to bring together authors from top-tier schools to outline their programs and surrounding efforts in Service Learning,

[<http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=2501>] from ALA Editions....

ACRL's 14th National Conference

[<http://alfocus.ala.org/videos/2009-acrl-national-conference>]

In this overview (2:21) of the 2009 ACRL National Conference in Seattle, keynoter Sherman Alexie discusses a terminology conundrum, Mary K. Van Ullen explains the effect of cultural differences on teaching about plagiarism, Diane Dallis describes Indiana University's planned research commons, and keynoter Ira Glass demonstrates how *This American Life* uses music to make stories come to life....

Featured review: Books for youth

[http://www.booklistonline.com/default.aspx?page=show_product&pid=3376414]

Benjamin (author and illustrator). Orange. Feb. 2009. 144p. Grades 11–12.

Tokyopop, paperback (978-1-4278-1463-0).

Starting with the literal and figurative bang of a falling body smashing into a car, Orange—one in Tokyopop's new line of full-color graphic novels—tells its story in flashback through some of the most beautiful art rendered in modern manga. Orange is a girl who feels “pathetic and alone,” troubled by empty friendships with people she feels are poseurs and boyfriends who treat her poorly and make unwanted sexual advances. But a chance meeting at a crucial moment with a mysterious man who makes the ultimate romantic sacrifice brings her story back to that inevitable bang in a surprising way....

Despereaux measures

[<http://blog.booklistonline.com/2009/03/25/despereaux-measures/>]

Daniel Kraus writes: “I had a ball chatting with Ingrid Law,

[<http://blog.booklistonline.com/2009/02/06/i-fought-law-and-law-won/>] and

Gillian Engberg seemed thrilled to be talking to Ann Brashares,

[<http://blog.booklistonline.com/2009/03/05/on-sisterhood-traveling-and-pants/>] but for sheer frequency of giggling frivolity, it looks like Ilene

Cooper has us beat. She had a pow-wow recently with author Kate DiCamillo and before it's over they both sound like they're about to hyperventilate from laughter. What's so funny? You'll have to watch and see, but I will say that DiCamillo talks extensively about the surreal experience of seeing her book *The Tale of Despereaux* turned into a major motion picture.”...

Likely Stories, Mar. 25

editor on Howard Stern Show

[<http://audiobooker.booklistonline.com/2009/03/15/star-reviewer-mary-frances-wilkens-on-howard-stern/>]

Mary Burkey writes: “It's not every day that a mild-mannered Booklist editor earns her 15 minutes of fame. But that's exactly what happened when Mary Frances Wilkens, long-time fan of Howard Stern's radio show, was assigned the decidedly adult audiobook written by Stern show regular Artie Lange. When Mary Fran starred the review of Lange's *Too Fat to Fish*, little did she realize that her

work would catch the eye (ear?) of Stern's radio show producers. But lo and behold, the fan became the featured guest, as Mary Fran was interviewed
[<http://audiobooker.booklistonline.com/wp-content/uploads/2009/03/mfw-on-h100-news1.mp3>] on the show!"...
Audiobooker, Mar. 15

@ Visit Booklist Online [<http://www.booklistonline.com/>] for other reviews and much more....

Division News

ACRL's Strategic Thinking Guide for Academic Librarians in the New Economy
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/issues/future/acrlguide09.pdf>]
(PDF file)

Kathryn Deiss and Mary Jane Petrowski write in the introduction to this new ACRL document: "This project was originally conceived as an environmental scan that would generate discussion at the ACRL 14th National Conference in March. In the wake of dramatic economic developments, government action, and a flood of higher education trends reports, we felt that a strategic thinking guide would better complement the current literature. This guide considers three important drivers in the current environment and poses questions to stimulate conversations and action in your libraries and on your campuses."...

[<http://www.wrestlemania25.com/>]YALSA names WrestleMania Reading Challenge winners
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/yalawrestlemania.cfm>]

Ten regional winners in grades 7–8 and 9–12 from across the United States have won a chance to compete in the WrestleMania Reading Challenge National Finals in Houston, Texas. Five regional champions from grades 5–6 will also be guests at the finals, which will be held on April 4 at the Houston Public Library. Each regional winner won a trip for two to Houston, tickets to the 25th Anniversary of WrestleMania at Reliant Stadium on April 5, and \$2,000 for their sponsoring library. The Reading Challenge is sponsored by YALSA and World Wrestling Entertainment....

ALTAFF to host quiz-show fundraiser
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/altaffwaitwait.cfm>]
ALTAFF and ALA Conference Services will present an evening with Wait Wait . . . Don't Tell Me!, National Public Radio's weekly hour-long quiz program on July 9. ALTAFF has purchased all 500 seats in Chicago's Chase Auditorium and will pack the house with librarians and library supporters as a fundraiser for the newly established division during ALA Annual Conference. Host Peter Sagal, official scorekeeper Carl Kasell, and a panel of the nation's foremost pundits (including Paula Poundstone) will play this witty and quirky quiz show....

[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/acrl/3382918180/>]
[<http://www.flickr.com/photos/acrl/sets/72157604368374700/>]
On February 20, ACRL's Choice magazine took possession of the new Liberty Square office condominium unit in downtown Middletown, Connecticut. The new three-story building has retail space on the ground floor, office rental space on the second floor, and Choice occupying the entire 7,635-square-foot third floor. Choice's new address, effective March 23, is 575 Main Street, Suite 300, Middletown, CT 06457....

RUSA program on readers' advisory trends
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/rusapresprogram.cfm>]
Readers' advisory, collection development, and reference librarians interested in cutting-edge trends and possibilities in their field should attend the RUSA President's Program, "From the Book and Beyond: Interdisciplinary Readers' Advisory," at the 2009 ALA Annual Conference in Chicago. The program, 1:30–3 p.m. on July 13, is the inaugural session of the Readers' Advisory Research and Trends Forum....

RUSA Marketing Basics registration ends soon
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/rusamarketingbasics.cfm>]
Librarians intimidated by marketing assignments related to their jobs or looking to perfect their marketing know-how should register for Marketing Basics for Libraries
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/rusa/development/marketingbasics/index.cfm>] by March 30. Classes are scheduled for the following dates: April 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30, 11 a.m.–1 p.m. Central Time using the Moodle course management system....

PLA politics and networking workshop
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/plapoliticsnetworking.cfm>]
Now more than ever, being able to navigate the political environment in your community is critical to the success of your public library. In order to help you learn the skills you need to operate effectively with your local government, PLA and the Georgia Public Library Service are offering a two-day CPLA Politics and Networking workshop
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/pla/plaevents/cplacourses/politics.cfm>]
June 4–5 in Decatur, Georgia....

Round Table News

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SRRT Newsletter goes web-only [<http://libr.org/srrt/news/srrt166.html#1>]
LaJuan Pringle writes: "The Social Responsibilities Round Table is undertaking a huge shift in the delivery of the SRRT Newsletter. Welcome to our first electronic-only edition of the newsletter. After a long discussion at Midwinter, we have decided that we would like to experiment with electronic delivery. What we hope to do is cut down on the expenses associated with delivering a printed newsletter to our members before our

annual and midwinter meetings.”...
SRRT Newsletter, no. 166 (Mar.)

Awards

Coretta Scott King Awards founder, Mabel McKissick

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/olismckissick.cfm>]

Mabel R. McKissick, cofounder of the ALA Coretta Scott King Book Awards, died on March 20 at the Bridebrook Rehabilitation Center in Niantic, Connecticut. The librarian for New London (Conn.) High School from 1979 to 1990, she was 87. McKissick and Glyndon Greer were attending a library conference in New Jersey in 1969, when they determined the need to recognize African-American authors and illustrators of books for children and youth. After talking to Coretta Scott King, they received her approval to use her name on the awards, which began in 1970....

2009 L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award winner

[<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2394>]

The ALA Office for Information Technology Policy and its Copyright Advisory Subcommittee have named Jack Bernard, assistant general counsel and policy analyst at the University of Michigan, this year’s winner of the L. Ray Patterson Copyright Award. Bernard has been a pioneer in the open access movement and is shepherding the University of Michigan’s efforts to incorporate a fair use analysis into its open course initiatives....

District Dispatch, Mar. 24

Richard LeComte wins Justin Winsor Prize

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/orswinsor.cfm>]

The Library History Round Table has named Richard LeComte the winner of the Justin Winsor Prize for 2009. The award, \$500 and a certificate, is presented annually to the author of an outstanding essay embodying original historical research on a significant subject of library history.

A student in the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Alabama, LeComte won the prize for his essay, “Writers Blocked: The Debate over Public Lending Right during the 1980s.”...

2009 Jesse H. Shera Award

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/orsshera.cfm>]

The Library Research Round Table has awarded the Jesse H. Shera Award for Distinguished Published Research to Lynn Westbrook for her work on “Understanding Crisis Information Needs in Context: The Case on Intimate Partner Violence Survivor,” Library Quarterly 78, no. 3 (2008): 237–261. The study examines the role public libraries can play in providing the information needs of victims of intimate partner violence....

[<http://www.libraryjournal.com/toc-archive/2009/20090315.html>] Movers and

Shakers [<http://www.libraryjournal.com/?layout=MS2009>]
Movers and Shakers, which Library Journal launched in 2002 to identify librarians, vendors, and others who are “shaping the future of libraries,” is now over 400 innovators strong, with the addition of the 51 members of the Class of 2009. Together, these individuals comprise the coming generation of library leadership. They’ve embraced library technology, particularly library 2.0, “to provide exceptional service and kick-ass collections that respond to the real interest of patrons,” as one of this year’s Movers phrased it. Oh yes, and the Library Society of the World has launched its own Shovers and Makers [<http://www.shoversandmakers.net/>] awards for the rest of us. Declare yourself [<http://www.shoversandmakers.net/sm-award-winners-2009>] one....
Library Journal, Mar. 15; Library Society of the World, Mar. 23+

Public Library Innovation Grants

[<http://www.icma.org/main/ns.asp?nsid=4424&hsid=1&scid=25&t=0>]
The International City/County Management Association has awarded \$500,000 in grant funding to nine cities, towns, and counties to support new projects developed by local governments that utilize public libraries to address critical local needs and provide services that strengthen their communities. The Public Library Innovation Grants are funded through ICMA’s partnership with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation....
International City/County Management Association

Syracuse awarded NEH grant for Marcel Breuer digital project
[<http://libweb.syr.edu/librarynews/archives/001132.html>]
The National Endowment for the Humanities has awarded the Syracuse (N.Y.) University Library a \$350,000 grant to create a digital scholarly edition of the works of Bauhaus architect Marcel Breuer. The project, entitled “Marcel Breuer, Architect: Life and Work, 1922–1955” will run from May 2009 through April 2011 and culminate in the release of a web-based edition. Breuer began donating his papers to Syracuse University Library in 1964....
Syracuse University, Mar. 19

Seamus Heaney wins David Cohen Prize

[<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books/2009/mar/18/seamus-heaney-david-cohen>]
Irish poet Seamus Heaney was recognized for the “sheer scale” of his literary achievements with the £40,000 (\$58,700 U.S.) David Cohen Prize. The prize, one of the most prestigious honors for living British writers, is awarded biennially for a lifetime’s excellence in literature. On receiving his prize at a March 18 ceremony at the British Library, Heaney said the award was “highly honorific.”...
The Guardian (U.K.), Mar. 18

Krasikov wins 2009 Sami Rohr Prize

[<http://www.jewishbookcouncil.org/news.php?item.14>]
The Jewish Book Council has named Sana Krasikov the 2009 recipient of the Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature. Krasikov wins the \$100,000 prize for her debut short story collection, *One More Year* (Spiegel and Grau), based on her demonstration of a fresh vision and evidence of future potential to further contribute to the Jewish literary community....
Jewish Book Council, Mar. 24

2009 Bancroft Prize winners [<http://news.columbia.edu/home/1462>]
The authors of three acclaimed books—a study of the 1914 massacre of striking coal miners in Colorado (right), an analysis of the impact of death and dying in the Civil War, and a reinterpretation of the Comanches in the southwestern borderland in the 18th and 19th centuries—will be awarded the Bancroft Prize for 2009, Columbia University announced. The Bancroft is awarded annually by the trustees of Columbia University to the authors of books of exceptional merit in the fields of American history, biography, and diplomacy....
Columbia University, Mar. 19

2009 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award
[http://www.alma.se/templates/KR_Page.aspx?id=4366&epslanguage=EN]
The 2009 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award has been awarded to the Tamer Institute for Community Education, [<http://www.tamerinst.org/>] a nonprofit organization that stimulates Palestinian children's and young adults' love of reading in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The award of 5 million kronor (\$6.8 million U.S.) is granted by the Swedish government for the publishing or promotion of children's literature....

Seen Online

Libraries stressed, yet needed more than ever
[http://www.denverpost.com/ci_11954751]
Alicia Caldwell writes: "Not long ago, on a Sunday afternoon, my son and I pulled into the parking lot of Denver's Schlessman Family Branch Library. I was surprised by what I saw. The place was like Best Buy during Christmas week. We had to hunt for a parking space and, when we got inside, it was wall-to-wall people. The recession is driving people back to libraries, which prognosticators had not long ago written off as another likely victim of the digital age."...
Denver Post, Mar. 22

Well, maybe not Shakespeare
[http://entertainment.timesonline.co.uk/tol/arts_and_entertainment/the_tls/article5931174.ece]
Katherine Duncan-Jones writes: "A claim by the eminent Shakespearean Stanley Wells that a Jacobean painting (left) from the family collection of Alec Cobbe, long held in Ireland, is a life portrait of Shakespeare, has been widely publicized. But the man portrayed, with his elaborate lace collar and gold-embroidered doublet, appears far too grand and courtier-like to be Shakespeare. In early March, Tarnya Cooper, the 16th-century curator at the National Portrait Gallery, declared herself very skeptical about Wells's claim, and remarked that 'if anything . . . both works [one in the Folger Shakespeare Library and the Cobbe portrait] are more likely to represent the courtier Sir Thomas Overbury (right).'"...
Times Literary Supplement, Mar. 18

Camera catches New Haven art bandit
[http://www.newhavenindependent.org/archives/2009/03/39_paintings_st.php]

A thief allegedly slipped a painting under his jacket to feed his heroin habit—not knowing that the public library's cameras were rolling and his string of remarkable art heists was about to end. Police said the thief, an unidentified 53-year-old man, ripped off 39 paintings from New Haven, Connecticut, venues, including \$40,000 in art from Yale's Slifka Center and the Free Public Library. The paintings were recovered
[http://www.nhregister.com/articles/2009/03/24/news/new_haven/doc49c8c5adc58e1460720524.txt] during a weekend bust on an area home, where a second man had allegedly been fencing the art in exchange for bags of heroin....
New Haven (Conn.) Independent, Mar. 23; New Haven (Conn.) Register, Mar. 24

Topeka's problem is not unique
[http://www.cjonline.com/news/local/2009-03-21/board_problem_not_unique]
Camille Wood is assistant director of the Nampa (Idaho) Public Library, which restricted two sex-related books in June 2008 and then placed the books back on the shelf after the American Civil Liberties Union threatened a lawsuit. One of those books (The Joy of Gay Sex) is among four that the Topeka and Shawnee County (Kans.) Public Library's board of trustees voted 5-3 in favor of restricting minors' access to. Trustees and the library's legal counsel spent an hour and a half in executive session March 19 discussing the decision....
Topeka (Kans.) Capital-Journal, Mar. 21

Vermont libraries have more than books
[<http://www.rutlandherald.com/article/20090322/FEATURES02/903220331>]
At least one Vermont library (the Martha Canfield Library in Arlington) has a skeleton in its stacks. But it's nothing to hide. In fact, patrons can check out the plastic bones and take them home, along with a model of a human torso and a variety of human and animal X-rays. Library users can check out everything from practical items such as garden tools and snowshoes to whimsical things such as puppets and children's costumes....
Rutland (Vt.) Herald, Mar. 22

Vampire book missing after parent complains
[http://www.sltrib.com/news/ci_11944849]
A parent's complaint over sexual content in Mormon author Stephenie Meyer's fourth novel, Breaking Dawn, coincided with the book's temporary absence from the library at Brockbank Junior High in Magna, Utah. Officials at the school purchased copies of the book some time ago, but as of March 18 hadn't placed them on library shelves. Principal Terri Van Winkle would not say whether the delay stemmed from a parent's complaint about a honeymoon scene in which sex is implied between the central characters Bella and Edward....
Salt Lake Tribune, Mar. 19

Wind to power KU's Anschutz Library
[http://www.cjonline.com/news/2009-03-23/wind_will_power_ku_library]
Wind will generate the electricity needed next year to power the Anschutz Library at University of Kansas in Lawrence. The Student Environmental Advisory Board this month began buying wind power credits from Westar Energy to offset fossil-fuel power to the library. A 2007 Student Senate initiative, approved by more than a 90% margin, calls for students to pay

\$1.25 a semester toward the goal of KU obtaining 20% of its energy from sustainable sources by 2020....

Topeka (Kans.) Capital-Journal, Mar. 23

Roosevelt Public Library embezzlement charge

[<http://www.newsday.com/news/local/crime/ny-lilarc256082358mar25,0,3341220.story>]

The Roosevelt (N.Y.) Public Library's former board president has been arrested on charges she stole \$47,000 from the library to pay for airplane tickets, car repairs, and groceries. Natalie Connor pleaded not guilty at her March 23 arraignment and is due back in court April 10. The Nassau District Attorney's office charged that from May 2007 through June 2008, Connor embezzled \$47,278 of the \$48,000 the foundation collected through fundraising....

Long Island (N.Y.) Newsday, Mar. 25

Brooklyn Public Library transfers guard for harassment

[http://www.northcountrygazette.org/2009/03/23/public_breastfeeding/]

The Brooklyn Public Library has transferred a security guard who twice chastised a new mother for breastfeeding her baby at the Flatlands branch. The library has also apologized to the woman, Danielle Glanvill, who had contacted the New York Civil Liberties Union about the harassment. The library's general counsel responded in a March 16 letter, reiterating its support for women's breastfeeding rights and outlining its efforts to address the mistake....

Chestertown (N.Y.) North Country Gazette, Mar. 23

Henderson shuts a branch

[<http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2009/mar/19/pittman-branch-henderson-libraries-permanently-shutt/>]

The Henderson (Nev.) District Public Libraries board of directors unanimously voted March 19 to permanently close the Pittman branch in an effort to trim costs against declining revenues. Executive Director Tom Fay said the system will maintain a small collection and continue to offer literacy programs and other services at the Boys and Girls Club in the same building, while looking for a larger, permanent site for the branch to move into when financially possible....

Las Vegas (Nev.) Sun, Mar. 19

Smoothie sale brings bucks for New Orleans branch

[<http://www.arkansascatholic.org/article.php?id=1659>]

18-year-old Stephen Riley of Little Rock, Arkansas, has found time to raise money for a place he remembers fondly—the Robert E. Smith branch of the New Orleans Public Library. When he was in elementary school in New Orleans, Riley visited the Smith library many times. Last fall he started Bucks for Books, a fundraising effort for the Smith branch, which has netted more than \$3,500. He also planned and held a smoothie sale fundraiser at his school in November....

Arkansas Catholic, Mar. 14

Plan would limit prison library books

[<http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/18/us/18prison.html>]

A broad swath of religious organizations and civil liberties groups—often on opposite sides of contentious issues—have

joined together to condemn a proposed rule that they say would prohibit some religious texts in federal penitentiary libraries. The Bureau of Prisons in January proposed that “materials that could incite, promote, or otherwise suggest the commission of violence or criminal activity” may be excluded from chapel libraries. An alliance of religious and political groups opposed the rule during the open comments period, which ended March 17....

New York Times, Mar. 17

Wyoming’s mudflap girl still a hit

[<http://www.4029tv.com/automotive/18991889/detail.html>]

The Wyoming State Library has conducted other targeted marketing efforts, but none has taken on a life of its own like the library mudflap girl.

[<http://wyominglibraries.org/campaign.html>] Launched in the fall of 2007, the six-month campaign featured the silhouette of a nude woman reading a book—a toned-down variation of the image commonly seen on truck mudflaps.

The campaign drew complaints from critics who said the library shouldn’t objectify women in its promotional materials. But mudflap girl T-shirts and other paraphernalia continue to sell online, and the topic still pops up in blogs and at library conferences....

Associated Press, Mar. 23

[Go back to the Top \[#top\]](#)

Tech Talk

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10 annoying habits of a geeky spouse

[<http://blog.wired.com/geekdad/2009/03/10-annoying-hab.html>]

Matt Blum writes: “A sizable part of every successful marriage is learning to live with those things each other does that annoy you. It’s safe to say that geeks have some habits that we think are awesome, but that non-geeks find a little less awesome. My wife is not as much of a geek as I am, so I asked her for some help putting together a list of 10 things geeks do that annoy their spouses. She was perhaps a little too enthusiastic about helping out, but here are the results.”...

Geekdad, Mar. 13

Gaming in the clouds [<http://www.technologyreview.com/business/22338/?a=f>]

OnLive, [<http://www.onlive.com/>] a Palo Alto, California–based startup, wants to do away with gaming consoles, game resellers, and the need to buy expensive graphics chips. On March 24, the company announced a service that lets any computer run the sorts of graphics-intensive video games traditionally reserved for high-end systems. Games can also be played on a TV using an add-on device. The idea is to separate games from consoles or desktop computers, says Steve Perlman, founder and CEO of OnLive....

Technology Review, Mar. 24

[http://www.ieeehn.org/wiki/index.php/Ada_Lovelace]

[<http://broadcast.oreilly.com/2009/03/the-women-of-xml.html>]

Kurt Kagle writes: “March 24, designated Ada Lovelace Day in honor of the woman recognized by many to have been the first software

programmer, is a day to recognize women in programming. I find that in the XML community there are a number of highly intelligent, technologically passionate, and hard-working women that more than deserve to be recognized. I present this list with no particular ordering in mind; they have all pushed the boundaries of XML in their own unique ways.”...

O’Reilly Broadcast, Mar. 24

The elegance of imperfection in web design

[<http://www.alistapart.com/articles/theeleganceofimperfection>]

David Sherwin writes: “When I try to think of a paradigm for pursuing elegance through imperfection, the Japanese concept of wabi-sabi comes to mind. Leonard Koren, in his book *Wabi-Sabi for Artists, Designers, Poets, and Philosophers* (Imperfect, 2008), describes the following material qualities of wabi-sabi: asymmetry, asperity, simplicity, modesty, intimacy, and the suggestion of a natural process. The most successful designs infuse these considerations at every stage, from idea to finished product.”...

A List Apart, Mar. 24

[<http://aws.amazon.com/ec2/>]Got an hour? Create a server in the cloud

[http://www.readwriteweb.com/archives/got_an_hour_create_a_server_in_the_cloud.php]

Lidija Davis writes: “On March 23, blog and RSS pioneer Dave Winer announced EC2 for Poets [<http://howto.opml.org/dave/ec2/>], a step-by-step guide to creating a server on Amazon’s EC2

[<http://aws.amazon.com/ec2/>] cloud server. His how-to guide is so easy to understand that we had our own server up and running within an hour.

Sure, it may not seem like much, but for this writer, it was an amazing coup. ‘It’s time to stop thinking about these servers as being things for geeks and start thinking about them as things for people with ideas,’ Winer said.”...

ReadWriteWeb, Mar. 21

Publishing

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found in the library [<http://www.ila.org/pub/reporter/current.pdf>]
(PDF file)

Alice Schreyer writes: “I have been delighted to see that Neil Harris’s *The Chicagoan: A Lost Magazine of the Jazz Age* splendidly illustrates the role of serendipity in the research process. Upon its publication by University of Chicago Press in the fall of 2008, the New York Times, the Chicago Tribune, the Chronicle of Higher Education, and other periodicals embraced the book—to a degree unusual for a publication by a university press—and shared its story with library patrons near and far.”...

Illinois Library Association Reporter 27, no. 2 (Apr.): 12–15

Regional English dictionary closes in on Z

[<http://www.news.wisc.edu/16255>]

Meandering its merry way through new submissions such as

“whiffle-minded,” “whirligust,” “whistle

punk,” and “williwags,” the Dictionary of American Regional English [<http://polyglot.lss.wisc.edu/dare/dare.html>] project is now tantalizingly close to completing a mission more than four decades in the making. DARE received a two-year, \$295,000 boost from the National Science Foundation this year that will help not only close the book on the fifth DARE volume—covering Si through Z—but lead the project into an influential second life as an online resource....

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Mar. 23

UM Press to merge operations with library

[<http://www.michigandaily.com/content/2009-03-24/u-merge-publishing-operations-library>]

Officials announced plans March 20 to merge the University of Michigan Press with the University Library in an effort to reinforce the school’s mission of efficiently publishing scholarly texts while transitioning into the digital age. Under the new plan, Dean of Libraries Paul Courant will oversee the Press, which will focus on

[http://umichpress.typepad.com/university_of_michigan_pr/2009/03/um-redefining-scholarly-publications-in-the-digital-age.html] the production and dissemination of primarily digital monographs....

Michigan Daily, Mar. 23; University of Michigan Press blog, Mar. 23

Sherlock Holmes in science fiction

[<http://io9.com/5178945/22-cases-of-sherlock-holmes-in-science-fiction>]

Alasdair Wilkins writes: “Sherlock Holmes wasn’t the first master detective (that honor probably goes to Edgar Allan Poe’s Auguste Dupin, who in his first case worked out the murderer was a knife-wielding orangutan), but his exploits pretty much perfected the genre. But who says Holmes doesn’t have a place in science fiction as well? We explore some of the Victorian sleuth’s most fantastic adventures.”...

io9, Mar. 22

Sony to offer Google-scanned public-domain eBooks

[http://www.pcworld.com/businesscenter/article/161530/sony_ebook_store_to_offer_classic_books_digitized_by_google.html]

Sony Electronics has struck a deal with Google to distribute half a million titles through the Sony eBook Store—for free. The books, all published before 1923, were digitized as part of the Google Book Search program. Sony will offer them alongside the 100,000 or so books still under copyright that it sells through its eBook store. To access the public-domain books, owners of Sony’s PRS-505 or PRS-700 readers will need to install the eBook Library Software for PCs and create an account on the eBook Store....

PC World, Mar. 19

Fujitsu’s new color eBook

[<http://www.time.com/time/business/article/0,8599,1886268,00.html>]

Josh Quittner writes: “Japanese tech company Fujitsu has released [<http://www.frontech.fujitsu.com/en/release/20090318.html>] the world’s first color e-reader, the FLEPia. It renders text as cleanly as a printed page, displays 260,000 colors, weighs three-quarters of a pound, and is connected to the net via WiFi. It costs \$1,000, a price tag that’s probably three times too high, which is typical for products aimed at early adopters.” Currently it is sold only in Japan....

Time, Mar. 19

[<http://americanlibrariesbuyersguide.com>]

Actions & Answers

New FOIA rules are official

[<http://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/news/2009/03/will-new-foia-rules-yield-a-data-flood.ars>]

Since 2001, the rule of thumb for government agencies responding to Freedom of Information Act requests has been “when in doubt, leave it out.” A month after the September 11 attacks, a directive [<http://www.usdoj.gov/oip/011012.htm>] from then–Attorney General John Ashcroft urged agencies to carefully consider all possible grounds for withholding information before making disclosures. On March 19, Attorney General Eric Holder reversed [<http://www.usdoj.gov/opa/pr/2009/March/09-ag-253.html>] that order, instructing executive branch officials that “an agency should not withhold information simply because it may do so legally.” ALA President Jim Rettig commented [<http://www.wo.ala.org/districtdispatch/?p=2375>] that the new guidelines will restore the commitment of the United States to open government....

Ars Technica, Mar. 20; District Dispatch, Mar. 20

The top 10 most wanted government documents [<http://www.cdt.org/>] The Center for Democracy and Technology and OpenTheGovernment.org have jointly released a report outlining the most sought-after government documents and information. The report, Show Us the Data: The Most Wanted Government Documents (PDF file [<http://www.openthegovernment.org/otg/TopTenReport.pdf>]), is based on the findings of an interactive website that allowed users to identify unclassified government documents and information they most wanted access to. The report details the top 10 documents and provides recommendations on ways to make all government information easily accessible....

Center for Democracy and Technology, Mar. 20

Federal librarians envision use of physical space

[<http://www.faflrt.ala.org/president/?p=221>]

The Federal Library and Information Center Committee has published the final report (PDF file [http://www.loc.gov/flicc/about/FLICC_WGs/LET/Leadershipthroughuncertaintimes/Final_FLICC_survey_report_2-3-09.pdf]) of its Special Project on Planning for Library Spaces (a project of the Libraries and Emerging Technologies Working Group [<http://www.loc.gov/flicc/about/FLICC%20WGs/libemergtech.html>]). The report was conceived as a response to the closing of the EPA libraries, where the federal agency had anticipated that space for a collection was no longer needed....

FAFLRT President blog, Mar. 23

NARA seeks alternative presidential library model

[<http://www.fas.org/sgp/news/2009/03/nara032409.html>]

The National Archives and Records Administration is asking for comments by interested organizations and individuals for cost-effective ways to modify the present system for archiving and providing public access to presidential records. Suggestions should be emailed [<mailto:preslib-alternatives@nara.gov>] by April 17....

National Archives and Records Administration, Mar. 24

The economics of book digitization

[<http://www.opencontentalliance.org/2009/03/22/economics-of-book-digitization/>]

Brewster Kahle writes: "Digitizing books still has some challenges, but I believe the economics of it are clear. Nonetheless, some misunderstandings persist. I'd like to review some of the most basic facts about book digitization that I've learned over the past seven or so years. Most attention is paid to the cost of scanning (photographing the pages and processing them), but I cannot emphasize enough that the greatest costs of building a digital library are those borne by the brick-and-mortar libraries."...

Open Content Alliance blog, Mar. 22

Healthfinder.gov tutorial for librarians

[<http://www.healthfinder.gov/tutorial/default.asp#librarian>]

Librarians looking for a credible and easy-to-use health promotion and wellness online resource for their customers should visit

Healthfinder.gov [<http://www.healthfinder.gov>]. This is a National Health Information Center website full of personalized health information and tools presented in an easy-to-read format with simple navigation. The site has been recognized as a key consumer resource for finding the best government and nonprofit health information on the internet. NHIC has created a tutorial

[<http://www.healthfinder.gov/tutorial/default.asp#librarian>] specifically for librarians....

Healthfinder.gov

SLA asks governor for library plan

[http://slaconnections.typepad.com/public_policy_blog/2009/03/sla-asks-penn-governor-for-library-plan-.html]

The Special Libraries Association sent a letter (PDF file

[<http://www.sla.org/pdfs/publicpolicy/031709GovernorRendell.pdf>]) to Gov.

Edward G. Rendell on March 17 expressing strong concern over the proposed 50% budget cut for the State Library of Pennsylvania. The letter acknowledges the recession and the need for tough decisions, but opposes the downsizing or diminution of library services until a detailed plan is produced and vetted by qualified information and policy experts....

SLA Public Policy Connections, Mar. 24

Talking to faculty about questionable assignments

[<http://inthelibrarywiththeleadpipe.org/2009/stepping-on-toes-the-delicate-art-of-talking-to-faculty-about-questionable-assignments/>]

Ellie Collier writes: "Every semester there is at least one student assignment that comes across my reference desk that makes me throw my

hands up in exasperation. What do you do after that student walks in with an assignment in hand that you know just isn't fair to them? Until a few months ago, I never even considered the possibility of talking to faculty about their assignments. I remember both the assignment that opened my eyes to that possibility and the one that was my personal tipping point.”...

In the Library with the Lead Pipe, Mar. 18

You be the World Book judge [<http://vote.worldbook.com/spinescape/>]
World Book introduced its first Spinescape in 1999, and this year you can vote for your favorite from among the top four finalists. The winning Spinescape will appear across the 22-volume spine of the 2010 edition of the encyclopedia, which will be on sale in August 2009. Readers can vote online through April 3....

World Book, Mar. 23

[<http://www.kidthing.com/nea/>]Free Dr. Seuss eBooks

[<http://www.kidthing.com/nea/>]

Kidthing is offering four Dr. Seuss eBooks free to teachers and librarians for downloading through March 31 as part of this year's Read Across America. Educators can sign up and download the free Kidthing media player for The Cat in the Hat, Horton Hears a Who!, Green Eggs and Ham, and Hop on Pop. Visit the store and enter the code ktcode-nea5raa in the search box to check them out....

Kidthing

Unconferences and library camps

[http://pln.palinet.org/wiki/index.php/Unconferences_and_library_camps]

Walt Crawford writes: “Traditional conferences almost always include more than just formal presentations arranged months or years in advance—but such formal presentations, and the extended planning and approval process required for them, make up the core of most traditional conferences.

Recently, a cluster of related alternative models for conferences have emerged in several fields, notably librarianship. The most common names for conferences using these models are Unconferences, BarCamps, and [x]Camps, where [x] is a subject or location.”...

PALINET Leadership Network

New Google search results experiments

[<http://blogoscoped.com/archive/2009-03-24-n84.html>]

Tony Ruscoe and Philipp Lenssen write: “Google is running an experiment in their search results, apparently shown to a portion of their users. On search results, say for the query comic books, a link in the top blue bar will read ‘Show options.’ Click it, and a side bar full of options expands to the left. One of the most interesting experiments is the ‘wonder wheel’ (right). This will show a Flash-based interactive mini app which starts with your keyword in the center, and related terms around it.”...

Google Blogoscoped, Mar. 24

Why advertising is failing on the internet

[<http://www.techcrunch.com/2009/03/22/why-advertising-is-failing-on-the-internet/>]

Eric Clemons writes: “There are three problems with advertising in any

form, whether broadcast or online. Consumers do not trust advertising, consumers do not want to view advertising, and mostly consumers do not need advertising. Porting ads to a new medium will not solve these problems. We always knew that freedom comes at a price; perhaps the price of internet freedom and the failure of ads will be paying a fair price for the content and the experience and the recommendations that we value.”...

TechCrunch, Mar. 22

“We Shall Remain” to air beginning April 13

[http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/weshallremain/the_films/index]

“We Shall Remain” is a PBS American Experience miniseries and multimedia project that establishes Indian history as an essential part of American history. Five 90-minute documentaries spanning 300 years tell the story of pivotal moments in U.S. history from the Native American perspective. A resource kit [<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/weshallremain/libraries>] is available for downloading. Libraries can enter a drawing up to May 7 to receive a DVD of the series; email Bruce Curliss

[mailto:bruce_curliss@wgbh.org] and describe a library event you are planning that coincides with the broadcast, April 13–May 11....

Public Broadcasting Service

My favorite cheap date: The library

[<http://www.glamour.com/sex-love-life/blogs/smitten/2009/03/my-favorite-cheap-date-the-lib.html>]

Erin Loechner writes: “I realize this sounds very bookworm-ish of me, but my favorite cheap date was actually free—a trip to our local library. On a particularly rainy day in L.A., my date surprised me at my door with one umbrella, two library cards, and a Ziploc bag of dimes. I was totally confused as we walked down the street to a tiny library near our favorite coffee shop.”...

Glamour, Mar. 24

[http://aallnet.org/sis/ripssis/TeachIn/2009/Jackson_Tax_Research_%20Iq.ppt]
Legal Research Teach-In Kit

[<http://aallnet.org/sis/ripssis/TeachIn/2009/index.html>]

The American Association of Law Libraries has released the 2009 version of its Legal Research Teach-In Kit. The kit includes games, handouts, research guides, exercises, and PowerPoint presentations on a variety of legal research topics. The teach-in is an annual campaign launched in 1993 to encourage U.S. law librarians to share materials and ideas for legal research instruction....

American Association of Law Libraries, Mar. 23

The other digital divide

[<http://yalsa.ala.org/blog/2009/03/25/the-other-digital-divide/>]

Linda Braun writes: “The title of this post is the result of a Twitter conversation that I had recently with librarians working in high schools and colleges. The other digital divide is between people who do and don’t have laptops to bring to school in order to connect to the internet, who do and don’t have needed software on home computers, and who have or don’t have family rules that make it hard to do what they need (and want) to do online. Schools and public libraries are the places that teens can and should have access to the technologies that

they don't have at home."...

YALSA blog, Mar. 25

New IMLS data note on broadband services

[<http://www.imls.gov/news/2009/031909b.shtml>]

The Institute of Museum and Library Services has launched a new series of data notes and research briefs to inform library and museum policy. The first data note in the series, Libraries Use Broadband to Serve High Need Communities (PDF file [http://www.imls.gov/pdf/DataNote2009_01.pdf]), was released March 19 and focuses on the role that public libraries play in providing access points to broadband services for people in urban and rural areas, and families in need....

Institute of Museum and Library Services, Mar. 19

Ex Libris and BCR offer digital preservation training

[http://www.bcr.org/about/newsreleases/2009/exlibris_3-20-09.html]

Ex Libris and BCR are partnering to offer libraries foundation training and consulting services in the field of digital preservation. The training will include an overview of digital preservation as well as courses on policy, planning, and risk assessment. The courses are available both online and in a classroom format....

BCR, Mar. 20

Nine ways to use Twitter

[<http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2343672,00.asp>]

John C. Dvorak writes: "Disregard the hype and the haters; Twitter is a powerful platform with plenty of practical uses. More than a few computer users are befuddled by all the fuss, but I can assure you that Twitter is actually a valuable service. And because it is in the news, and because perhaps half or more than half of my readers will say 'I don't get it' regarding Twitter, I thought I'd explain its usefulness. Or at least some of its usefulness."...

PC Magazine, Mar. 23

Twittephemeraliness

[<http://theshiftedlibrarian.com/archives/2009/03/24/twittephemeraliness.html>]

Jenny Levine writes: "I want to highlight how some important things from just a couple of months ago are becoming impossible to find. If we're not careful, the haystack is going to disappear, never mind the needle. Take the discussion that happened on Twitter during ALA's Midwinter Meeting in January. The meeting had a hashtag for tracking content (#alamw09), and almost everyone used it most of the time. There was a lot going on in that tag, so much so that I thought it was a tipping point

[<http://theshiftedlibrarian.com/archives/2009/02/27/twitter-on-ala-and-some-advice.html>] for the Association in terms of communication tools. But try to find that discussion now, and it's almost impossible."...

The Shifted Librarian, Mar. 24

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PN2HAroA12w>] Trouble with Twitters

[<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PN2HAroA12w>]

Derek struggles against the pressure from his officemate Craig to Twitter his life away (4:27). From "SuperNews!" an animated sketch comedy series

airing on Current TV. “You bastard! You’ve summoned the fail whale!”...
YouTube, Mar. 16

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[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/index.cfm>]

ALA Annual Conference,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/faq.cfm>]
Chicago, July 9–15. ALA divisions and round tables are sponsoring
Conference 101 programs.
[http://wikis.ala.org/annual2009/index.php/ALA_101_Programs] These will
help you plan your conference activities based on the kind of work you do
or the type of library where you work. Get expert advice on programs to
attend, exhibitors to visit, parties to frequent, and ways to get the
most out of ALA conference.

[<http://www.techsource.ala.org/ltr/implementing-second-life-ideas-challenges-and-innovations.html>]

In Implementing Second Life: Ideas, Challenges, and Innovations,
[<http://www.techsource.ala.org/ltr/implementing-second-life-ideas-challenges-and-innovations.html>] the latest issue of Library Technology Reports,
Joe Sanchez looks at the history of virtual worlds and how educators have
used them as tools for learning in the 21st century. NEW! From ALA
TechSource.

In this issue
March 2009

[<http://site.ebrary.com/lib/ala/home.action>]

Libraries and civic engagement

The return of Salinas Public Library

Amalgamating for advocacy

Midwinter Meeting conversations

Career Leads from
[<http://joblist.ala.org/>]

Library Director,
[<http://joblist.ala.org/modules/jobseeker/controller.cfm?scr=jobdetail&jobid=12910>] New Orleans Public Library. NOPL is seeking a library director who can provide leadership in rebuilding the library system post-Hurricane Katrina. This recovering library system, with a budget of \$7.5 million, has launched an ambitious \$30-million capital campaign to rebuild and renovate multiple branches affected by the hurricane. The director will work with a highly motivated administrative team, a staff of over 120, and report to the library board of directors in the historical urban setting of New Orleans....

@ More jobs [<http://joblist.ala.org/>]...

Digital Library of the Week

[http://content.lib.washington.edu/cdm4/item_viewer.php?CISOROOT=/ayp&CISOPTR=1074&CISOBX=1&REC=11]

1909 Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition.
[<http://content.lib.washington.edu/aypweb/index.html>] The more than 1,200 photographs from this exposition document the fair, held on the Seattle campus of the University of Washington during the summer of 1909. Images include depictions of the buildings, grounds, entertainment, and exotic attractions at the fair. The fair shaped the UW campus in ways that are visible today, creating the Rainier Vista and Drumheller Fountain. For many years, some of the former fair buildings were used by the university; today only Architecture Hall and Cunningham Hall remain. The information for the collection was researched and prepared by the UW Libraries Special Collections Division and Cataloging staff in 1999. Not all the photographs from the collection were included in this database, which consists of 655 digital images chosen from a larger group of photographic prints and postcards. The images were scanned in grayscale using a Microtek Scanmaker 9600L and saved in JPEG format. The original collection resides in the UW Libraries Special Collections Division as the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition Collection.

Do you know of a digital library collection that we can mention in this AL Direct feature? Tell us about it. [<mailto:aldirect@ala.org>] Browse previous Digital Libraries of the Week at the I Love Libraries [<http://www.ilovelibraries.ala.org/diglibweekly/>] site.

Public Perception

How the World Sees Us

“An adult needs a sense of childhood, and books provide that. Children need a sense of what an adult is capable of becoming, and a librarian provides that. In a world filled with cruelty, we need sense and sensibility, and the library provides that. Long live the library!”

—Endorsement from a library patron in a survey conducted jointly by the New Jersey State Library and the New Jersey Library Association, “Snapshot: One Day in the Life of New Jersey Libraries, [<http://snapshot.njlibraries.org/>]” Feb. 19.

[<http://www.twitter.com/amlibraries>]

AL on Twitter? Follow American Libraries news stories, videos, and blog posts on Twitter. [<http://www.twitter.com/amlibraries>]

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/acrl/publications/crlnews/2009/mar/March.cfm>]

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/guidelinesandstandards/learning4life/index.cfm>]

April is School Library Media Month.

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/aasl/aaslissues/aasladvocacy/schoollibrary.cfm>] This year, AASL is offering a webinar series

[<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/aaslllearning4life.cfm>] designed for school library media specialists. The webinars are part of AASL’s Learning4Life, an initiative to implement Standards for the 21st-Century Learner and Empowering Learners: Guidelines for School Library Media Programs (available in mid-April) nationally. The webinars will be held at 4:30 p.m. Central Time on Wednesdays.

Ask the ALA Librarian

Q. I have been searching for information on why students don’t like to use the library catalog to find information, and I was wondering if you had any information you could pass on. I am concerned that students at my school have to log on using their own personal account password before they can get into the catalog. This sometimes takes up to three minutes. Students end up asking the library staff for help, leave frustrated, or decide not to use the library.

A. There are several articles

[http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/Children_and_Using_Catalogs] in the library literature that give some indications of why K–12

students don't like using library catalogs, or at least why they prefer to ask a person for help finding a book. Whether or not there should be dedicated catalog workstations, such as those found in public libraries, in school media centers does not appear to be addressed in any of these scholarly articles. There is definitely a need to have readily accessible computers in the school library, but none of the articles address whether the computers should be standalone OPACs or not. From the ALA Professional Tips wiki [http://wikis.ala.org/professionaltips/index.php/How_Children_Search].

@ The ALA Librarian [<mailto:AskTheLibrarian@ala.org>] welcomes your questions.

April 12–18 is National Library Week, [<http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/march2009/pionlwminder.cfm>] an observance honoring the contributions of our nation's libraries, librarians, and library workers. This year's theme is "Worlds Connect @ your library" and will be celebrated at thousands of libraries of all types throughout the country.

Calendar

Apr. 13–17:

American Educational Research Association, [<http://www.aera.net/Default.aspx?id=5348>] Annual Meeting, San Diego Convention Center. "Disciplined Inquiry: Education Research in the Circle of Knowledge."

Apr. 14–17:

Catholic Library Association, [http://www.cathla.org/convention_2009.php] Annual Convention, Hyatt Regency Orange County, Anaheim, California. "Leadership, Direction, Service."

Apr. 16–21:

Art Libraries Society of North America, [<http://www.indiana.edu/~indycon/>] Annual Conference, Downtown Marriott, Indianapolis. "Circle City Convergence."

May 1:

Art of Storytelling [<http://www.mdpls.org/aos/aosHome.asp>] workshop, Main Library, Miami-Dade (Fla.) Public Library System.

May 12–16:

Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries, [<http://www.cbhl.net/meetings/meetings.htm>] Annual Meeting, Missouri

Botanical Garden, St. Louis. “Growing Green: The Role of Gardens As Models of Conservation and Sustainability.”

May 27–30:

Association for Recorded Sound Collections,
[<http://www.arsc-audio.org/conference/>] Annual Conference, Liaison
Capitol Hill Hotel, Washington, D.C.

May 28–31:

BookExpo America, [<http://www.bookexpoamerica.com/>] Jacob J. Javits
Center, New York City.

May 29–

June 1:

Canadian Library Association, [<http://www.cla.ca/conference/2009/>]
Conference and Trade Show, Palais des Congrès de Montréal, Québec.

June 8–11:

Association of Christian Librarians, [<http://www.acl.org/conference.cfm>]
Annual Conference, Evangel University, Springfield, Missouri. “Retool,
Refresh, Return.”

June 17–20:

American Theological Library Association,
[http://www.atla.com/member/conference/conf_2009/conference_home.html]
Millennium Hotel, St. Louis.

July 5–8:

Association of Jewish Libraries,
[<http://www.jewishlibraries.org/ajlweb/conventions/convention2009.htm>]
Annual Conference, Sheraton Chicago Hotel and Towers.

July 9–12:

Early Book Society, [<http://www.nyu.edu/projects/EBS/ExeterCFP.html>] 11th
Biennial Conference, University of Exeter, U.K. “Accipe et Devora:
Packaging, Presentation and Consumption of MSS and Printed Books,
1350–1550.”

July 9–15:

American Library Association,
[<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/upcoming/annual/2009/generalinformation.cfm>] Annual Conference, McCormick Place West, Chicago.

July 11:

The Who, What, and How of 21st-century Skills: Getting the Big Picture,
[<http://ce.nl.edu/21stCenturySkills.html>] workshop sponsored by NILRC:
Network of Illinois Learning Resources in Community Colleges and
National-Louis University Library, Chicago.

July 25–28:

American Association of Law Libraries, [<http://www.aallnet.org/events/>]
Annual Meeting, Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C.

Aug. 23–27:

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions,
[<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla75/index.htm>] World Library and Information
Congress, Fiera Milano Convention Centre, Milan, Italy. "Libraries Create
Futures: Building on Cultural Heritage."

Sept. 2–4:

International Association of School Librarianship,
[<http://www.iasl-online.org/events/conf/2009/>] Annual Conference, Abano
Terme, Padua, Italy.

Sept. 8–11:

International Conference for Digital Libraries and the Semantic Web,
[<http://www.icsd-conference.org/>] University of Trento, Italy.

Sept. 27–

Oct. 1:

International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and
Information Centers, [<http://www.iamslic.org/index.php?section=214>] 35th
Annual Conference, Brugge and Oostende, Belgium. "Confluence of Ideas:
Evolving to Meet the Challenges of Global Change."

Sept. 27–

Oct. 2:

13th European Conference on Digital Libraries, [<http://www.ecdl2009.eu/>]
Corfu Holiday Palace, Corfu, Greece. "Digital Societies."

Oct. 19–23:

Open Access Week. [<http://www.arl.org/sparc/media/09-0305.shtml>]

@ More [<http://www.ala.org/ala/online/calendar/calendar.cfm>]...

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